

# 1973

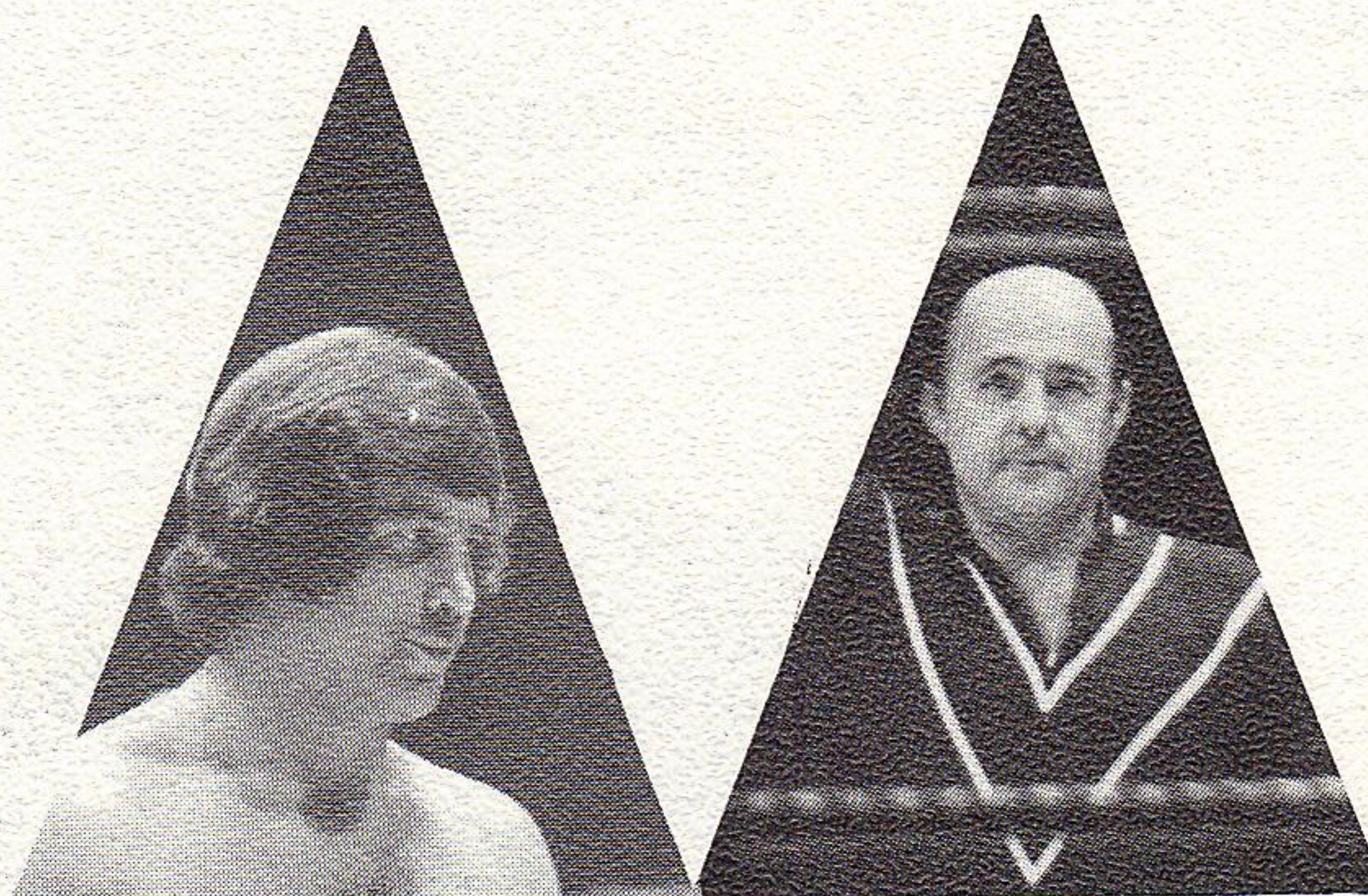
# RECORD

# BOOK

# PHOTO

# ALBUM

# 1973



- \* Memories of 1973
- \* Preserved in words & pictures
- \* Lists of Regional Titleholders
- \* Summary of 1973 Headline Events
- \* The year's most prominent feuds & results

A valued keepsake for fans and fanatics!

48  
PAGES

OVER  
80  
PHOTOS

AWA

NWA

WWWF

# WRESTLING



THE 1973 WRESTLING RECORD BOOK -  
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sion of the editor. It was  
printed by Frank Gimbrone's  
Horseman's Review, 10760  
Main, Roscoe, Ill. Altho  
extensive research was made  
in compiling these records  
readers should be aware  
that information is  
more representative  
of 1973 wrestling  
than complete.

Front cover photos  
pay tribute to  
1973 champions:

Verne Gagne (AWA)

Jack Brisco  
(NWA), Harley

Race (NWA),

Bruno Sammar-  
tino (WWWF),

Pedro Mor-  
ales (WWWF),

Dory Funk

Jr. & Race  
(NWA). clock

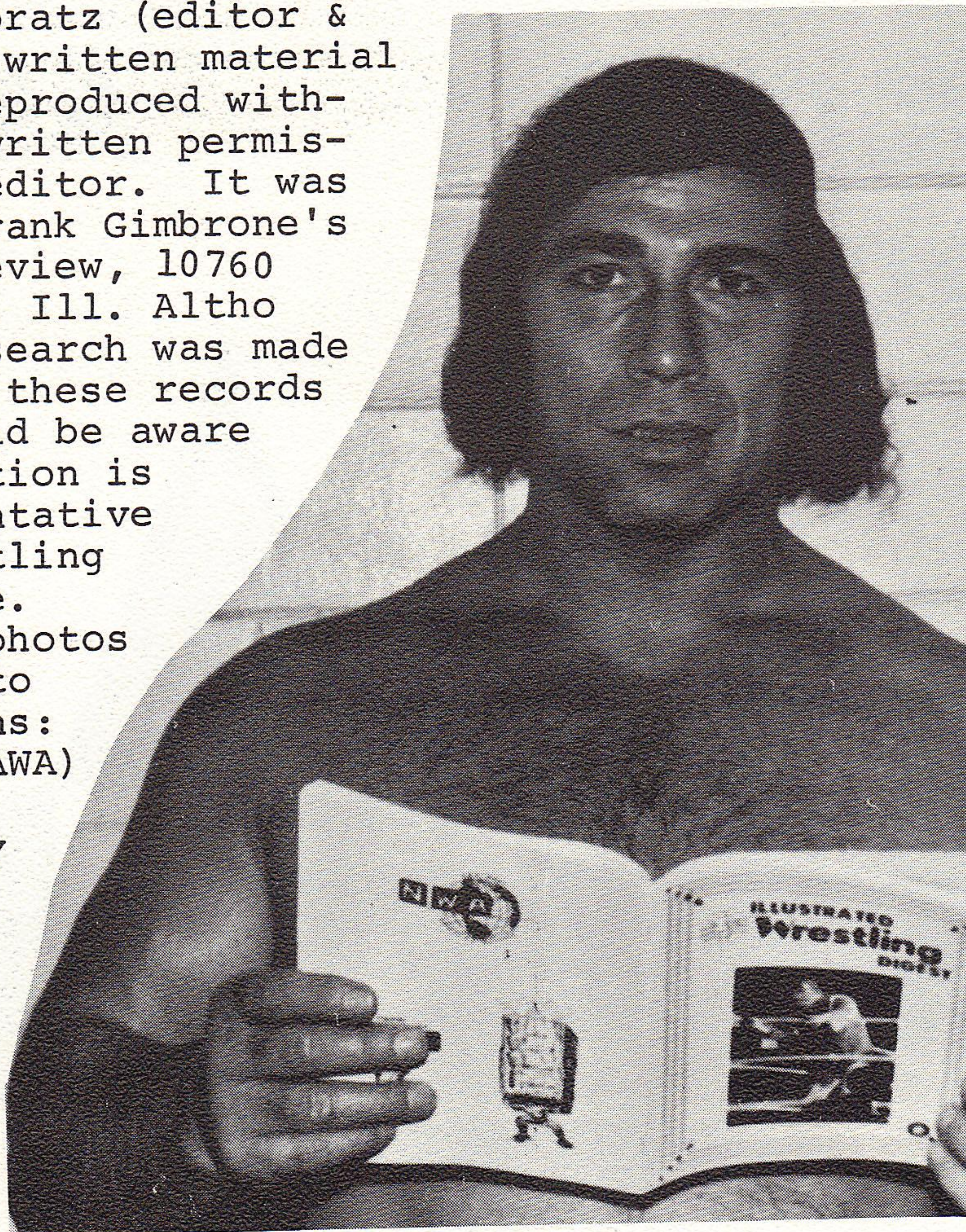
wise

Back Cover  
photos are

of: Monsoon vs Wolff; Crusher vs Kobayashi; Firpo vs  
Valentine; Robinson vs Koloff; and McDaniel vs Hennig.

A limited number of publications compiled by the editor  
that contain less detailed view of 1972 (Illustrated  
Wrestling Digest #3), 1971 (Wrestling information Bul-  
letin #14), and a third publication for nostalgia fans  
(WIB #11) containing memories of 1950s will also be in-  
cluded for \$2. Send to: Ronald Dobratz, 3623 Rockton,  
Rockford, Illinois, 61103. For additional copy of this  
1973 book send \$1.25 or \$1 each when sending for 2 or  
more, or when also sending for special \$2 offer.

Tony  
Marino





## DORY FUNK JR.

Since the evening of Feb. 11, 1969 when Dory beat Gene Kiniski in Tampa, Fla. he has held the NWA title. Many fans insist that he was robbed on May 24, 1973 when Harley Race won the belt in Kansas City. With the falls even, Dory was whipped into the ropes & collided with the referee as he bounced off. Funk



jumped to his feet immediately, climbed the ropes and came off with a flying body press. It seemed as if Race was pinned for at least 10 seconds, but the dazed ref was in no condition to count. By the time he wiped the cobwebs from his head, and began counting, Race kicked free. Funk leaped to his feet and committed the Cardinal sin that no champion can afford. He turned his back to Race to argue with the ref over the slow count. Harley ran up behind Funk, kneed him in the back. Dory went down and after a barrage of punches, Race applied the suplex and Funk didn't move as referee Richard Moody tolled off the final 3 seconds of his title reign. . . .As Champion during 1973, Dory defeated such notable challengers as Jack & Jerry Brisco, Jose Lothario, Gene Kiniski, Tim Woods, Boris Malenko, Big Bad John, Thunderbolt Patterson, Karl von Steiger, The Spoiler, Mark Lewin, Karl von Krupp, and Pampero Firpo.

\* \* \* \* \*

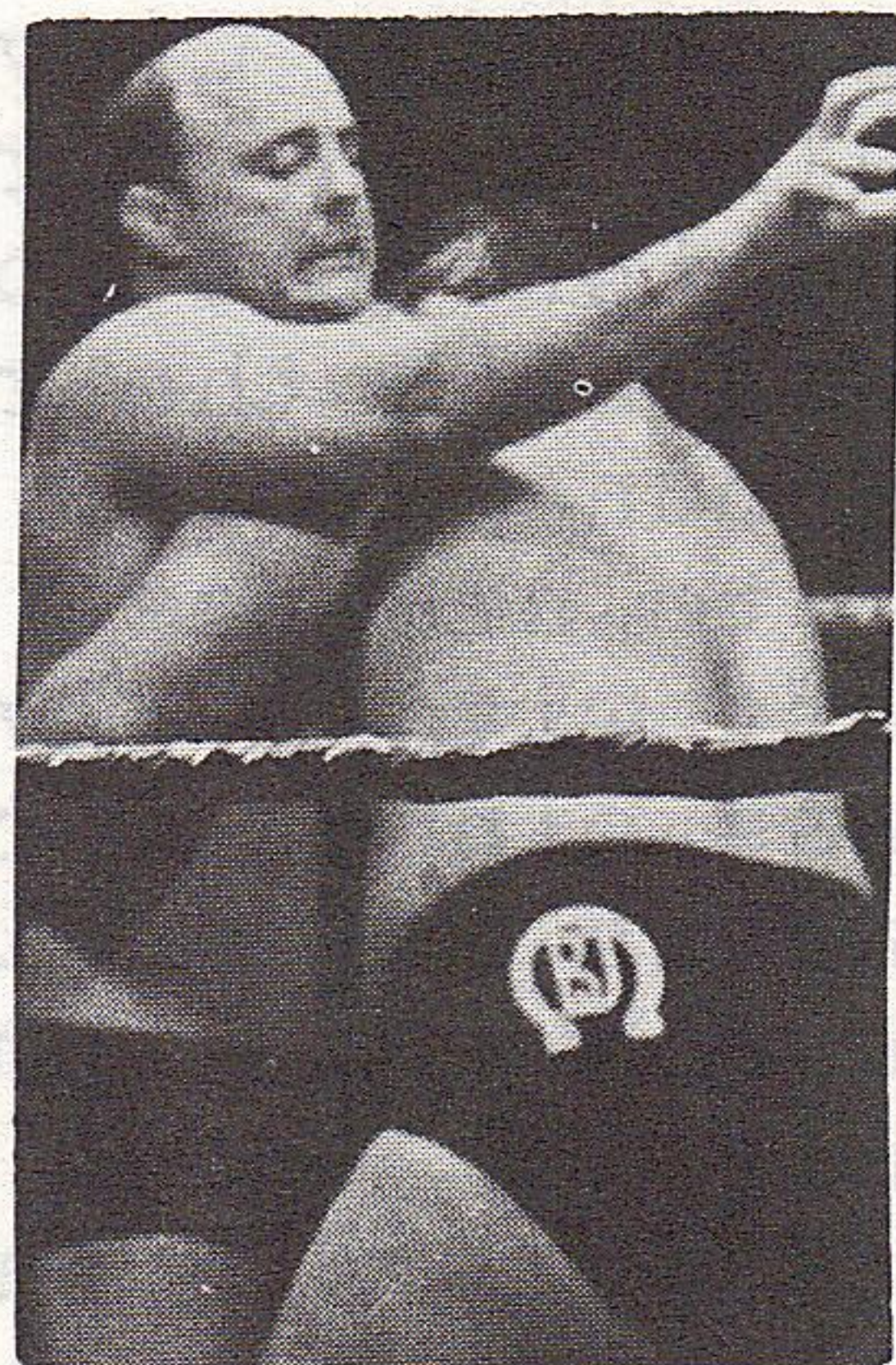
## PEDRO MORALES - WWWF Champion - Feb. 8, 1972 - Dec. 1, 1973

In the 22 months that Pedro Morales wore the Worldwide Wrestling Federation title belt he increased the prestige and honor of the title. During 1973 he proved his superiority over Lonnie Mayne, Buddy Wolff, George Steele, Professor Tanaka, BlackJack Lanza, Mike McCord, Larry Hennig, Curtis Iaukea, Mr. Fugi and Fred Blassie. He also kept the title in some very close and exciting battles with Don Leo Jonathan. On the few occasions he appeared outside WWWF rings he won impressive wins



over Hans Schmidt (Miami-Feb. 7), Paul Jones (Atlanta-May 25), Eric the Animal (Pittsburgh-Sept. 7) and Ray Stevens (Denver-Nov. 2). Prior to losing the title to Stan Stasiak in Philadelphia on Dec. 1, Pedro had twice beaten him by decision and with a pinning cradle, and since then, has gained revenge with several more wins, however they came after Stasiak surrendered the title to Bruno Sammartino in Madison Square Garden on Dec. 10.

\* \* \* \* \*



VERNI GAGNE, unlike the champions of the other two major alliances, maintained his hold on the American Wrestling Alliance title for all of 1973. Verne who has held the title several times has retained the AWA belt continuously since early 1967, when he defeated Mad Dog Vachon. The following is the record this yearbook compiled on Gagne's matches, with \* designating a non-title match.

|         |   |                                      |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Jan. 21 | - | Lost Ivan Koloff, Milwaukee *        |
| Feb. 9  | - | beat BlackJack Mulligan, Chicago     |
| Feb. 26 | - | beat Eddie Graham, NewYork *         |
| Mar. 4  | - | beat Superstar Graham, dq. GreenBay  |
| May 5   | - | beat Jimmy Valiant, Chicago          |
| June 30 | - | lost Billy Robinson, dq. Minneapolis |
| July 14 | - | beat Superstar Graham, dq. Milwaukee |
| July 25 | - | beat Superstar Graham, dq. Honolulu  |
| Aug. 13 | - | beat Nick Bockwinkel, Davenport      |
| Aug. 25 | - | lost Billy Robinson, dq. Minneapolis |
| Sep. 24 | - | lost Kobayashi, dq. Japan            |
| Sep. 28 | - | beat Kobayashi, Japan                |
| Nov. 12 | - | beat Mr. Fugi, NewYork *             |
| Nov. 14 | - | beat Edmund Francis, Honolulu        |
| Nov. 27 | - | beat Superstar Graham, dq. Omaha     |
| Dec. 1  | - | beat Nick Bockwinkel, St. Paul       |
| Dec. 14 | - | lost Nick Bockwinkel, dq. Chicago    |

Besides wrestling, Verne was also busy producing a full-length motion picture, "The Wrestler" featuring himself and many of the AWA wrestlers, about the sport of wrestling and incorporating an action plot. Verne is also engaged in training new, young wrestlers.





\* JACK \*

\* BRISCO \*

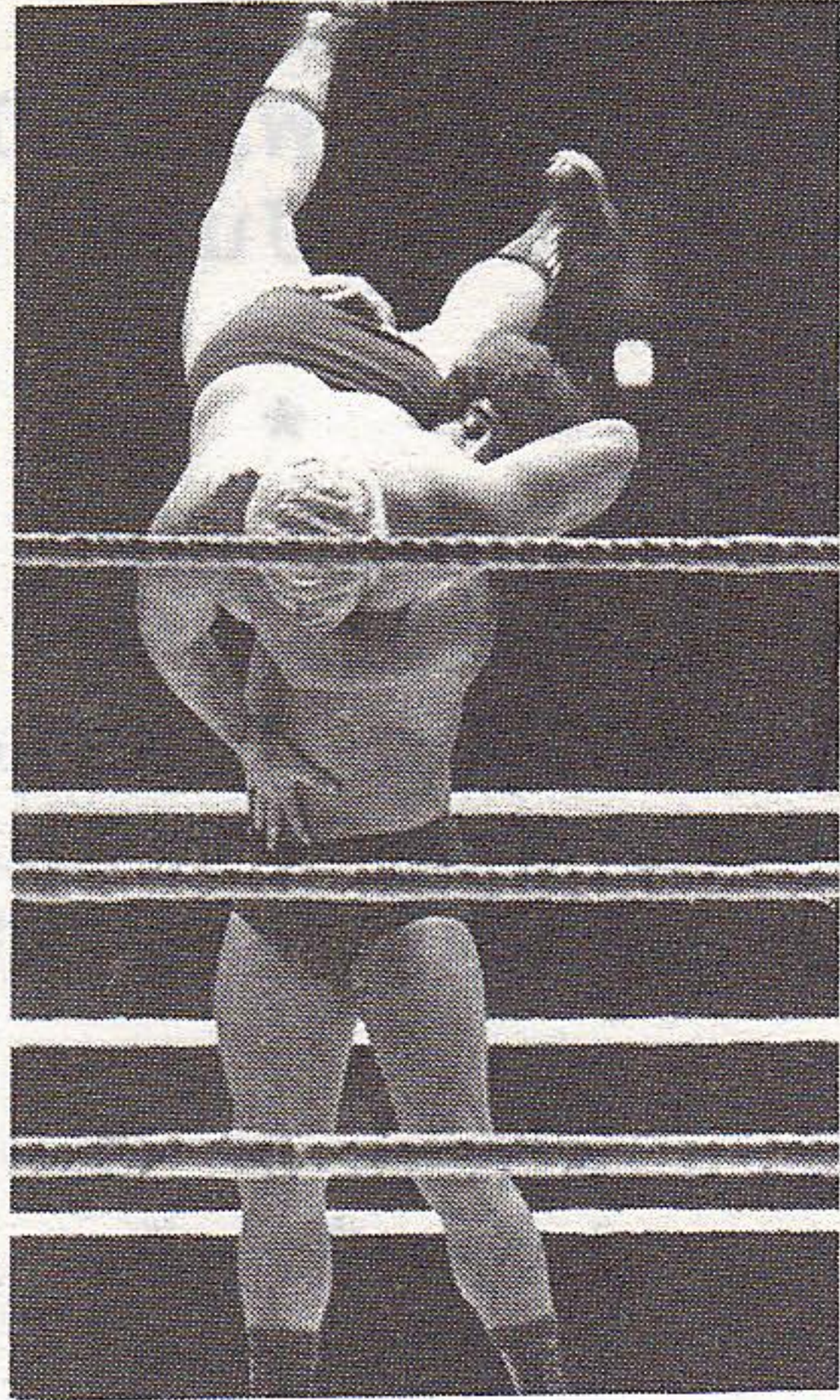
\* NWA \*

\* WORLD \*

\* CHAMPION \*

\* \*

\* \*



\* \* \* \* \*

July 20 - beat Harley Race, Houston, Tex.  
July 25 - drew Paul Jones, Miami, Fla.  
July 26 - beat Buddy Colt, Jacksonville, Fla.  
Aug. 30 - beat Bobby Shane, Jacksonville, Fla.  
Sep. 7 - beat Jonathan Boyd, Richmond, Va.  
Sep. 12 - beat Bobby Shane, Miami, Fla.  
Sep. 17 - lost Dory Funk Jr. dq. El Paso, Tex.  
Oct. 5 - beat Gene Kiniski, St. Louis, Mo.  
Oct. 15 - beat The Brute, Vancouver, B.C.  
Oct. 16 - beat Bull Ramos, Portland, Ore.  
Oct. 17 - beat Dutch Savage, Medford, Ore.  
Oct. 18 - beat Ripper Collins, Salem, Ore.  
Nov. 6 - beat Ken Lucas, Mobile, Ala.  
Nov. 7 - drew Jose Lothario, San Antonio, Tex.  
Nov. 13 - beat Terry Funk, Tampa, Fla.  
Nov. 14 - beat Don Carson, Miami, Fla.  
Nov. 16 - beat Terry Funk, St. Louis, Mo.  
Nov. 19 - beat Rip Hawk, Greenville, S.C.  
Nov. 22 - drew Dory Funk Jr. Greensboro, N.C.  
Dec. 10 - beat Harley Race, El Paso, Tex.  
Dec. 12 - drew Dick Murdoch, Amarillo, Tex.  
Dec. 13 - drew Terry Funk, Lubbock, Tex.  
Dec. 16 - beat Johnny Valentine, dq. Toronto  
Dec. 17 - beat Jimmy Golden, Orlando, Fla.  
Dec. 18 - beat Buddy Colt, Tampa, Fla.  
Dec. 19 - beat Paul Jones, Miami, Fla.  
Dec. 20 - beat Lou Thesz, Jacksonville, Fla.

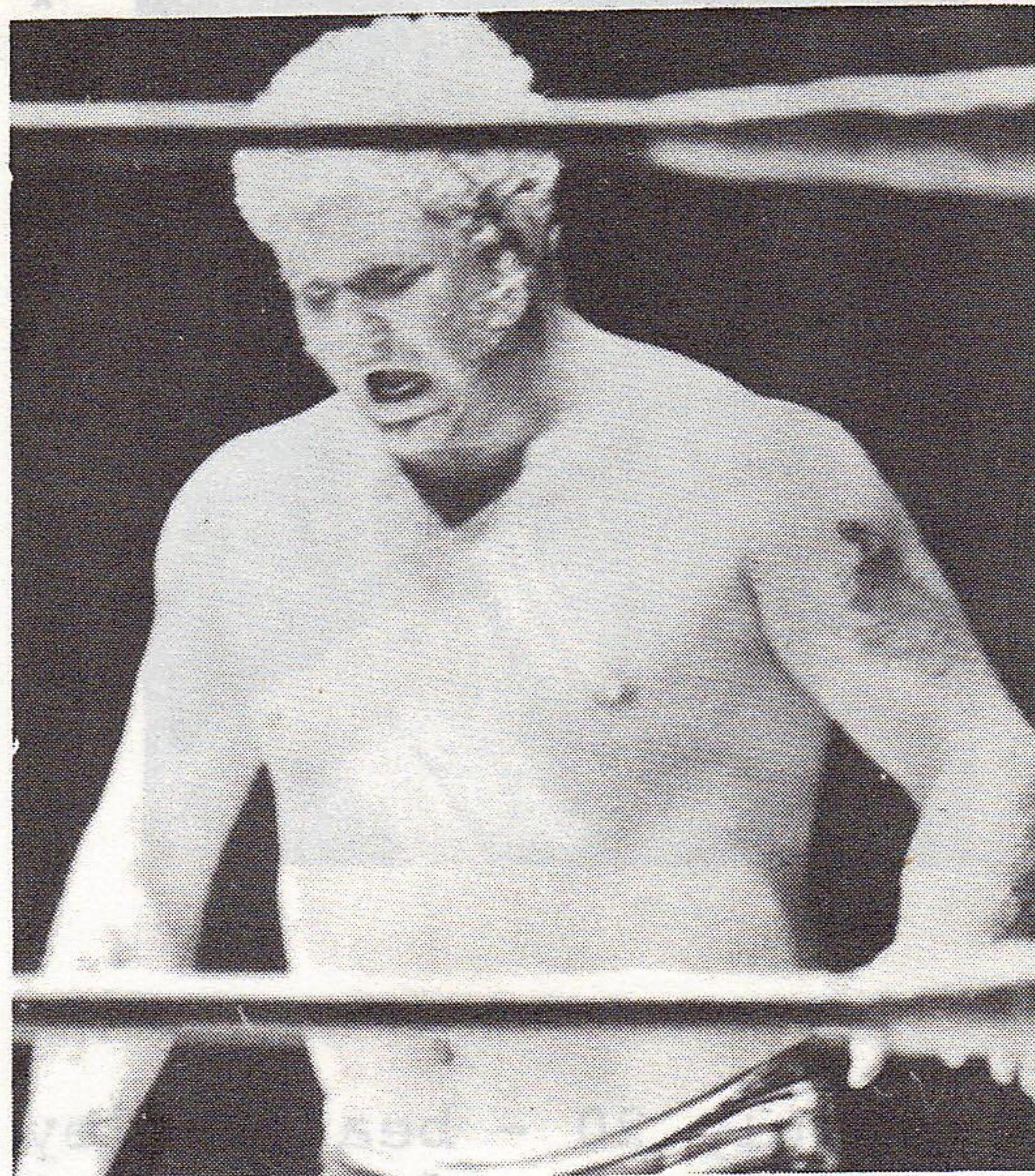
(partial record compiled by editor of yearbook)



HARLEY RACE CHAMPION  
NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE  
May 24 - July 20, 1973

\* \* \* \* \*

The following interview was given to Houston correspondent, Tom Prichard, while Race was the NWA Champion.



Q. When & where were you born? A. April 11, 1943 in Maryville, Mo.

Q. Are you in favor of any rule change for professional wrestling? A. Not really.

Q. What college did you attend? A. None.

Q. Who is your favorite tag team partner? A. None, I love wrestling by myself.

Q. What has been your most difficult match? Your most bitter feud? A. All three of the Funks.

Q. What other titles have you held, before becoming NWA World Champion? A. World tag team, Missouri State, Central States, and North American tag title.

Q. What is your favorite hold? A. The Suplex. That's what I used to defeat Dory Funk Jr.

Q. What was the most severe injuries you ever suffered in the ring? A. A broken leg & 15% loss of sight in left eye.

Q. How & when did you become interested in pro wrestling? A. At age 16 in St. Joseph, Mo. with Gust Karras. I wrestled in high school and won my first bout in Waterloo, Iowa.

Q. Whom do you consider has given you the toughest



match since you have been defending your title belt?  
A. Jose Lothario & Danny Little Bear.

Q. Are you married & where do you make your home?  
A. Yes, in Kansas City.

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Harley Race held the NWA title for only 2 short months but the excellent way he defended it, on a rugged schedule, against serious challengers during that period, greatly increased his stature.

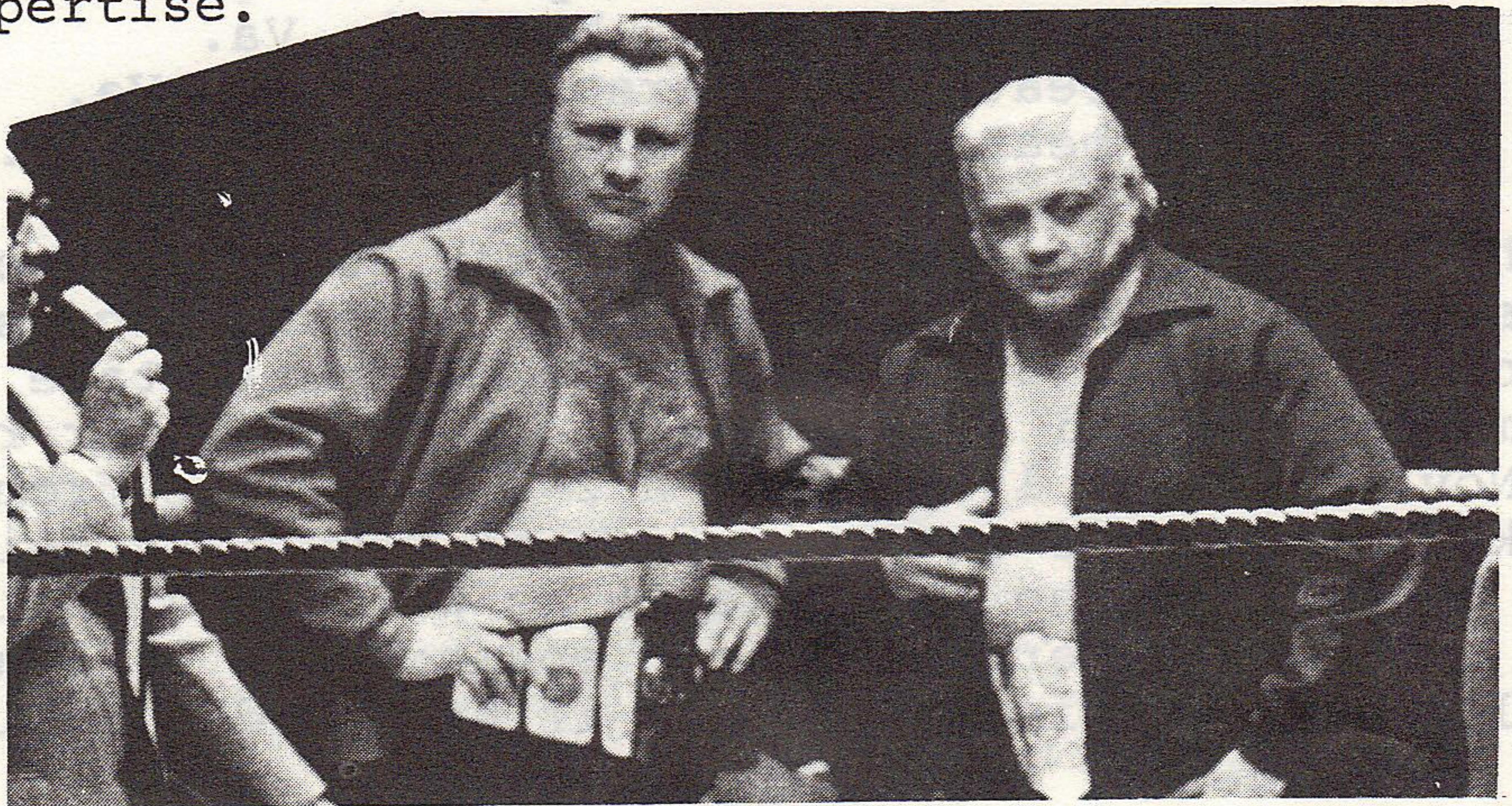
|      |    |   |      |                    |                    |
|------|----|---|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| May  | 28 | - | lost | Jack Brisco (dq)   | Savannah, Ga.      |
| May  | 30 | - | beat | Ron Fuller,        | Miami, Fla.        |
| May  | 31 | - | beat | Tim Woods,         | Jacksonville, Fla. |
| June | 1  | - | drew | Tim Woods,         | Atlanta, Ga.       |
| June | 2  | - | beat | T-Bolt Patterson,  | St. Petersburg     |
| June | 6  | - | beat | Danny Little Bear, | Des Moines, Ia.    |
| June | 8  | - | beat | Jose Lothario,     | Houston, Tex.      |
| June | 11 | - | beat | Sean Regan,        | Vancouver, B.C.    |
| June | 12 | - | beat | Dutch Savage,      | Portland, Ore.     |
| June | 15 | - | drew | Bruno Sammartino,  | St. Louis, Mo.     |
| June | 20 | - | beat | Danny Little Bear, | Des Moines, Ia.    |
| June | 24 | - | beat | Pat O'Connor,      | Toronto, Ont.      |
| June | 25 | - | drew | Terry Funk,        | El Paso, Tex.      |
| June | 27 | - | drew | Ricky Romero,      | Lubbock, Tex.      |
| June | 28 | - | drew | Dory Funk Jr.      | Amarillo, Tex.     |
| June | 29 | - | beat | Ivan Putski,       | Houston, Tex.      |
| June | 30 | - | drew | Dory Funk Jr.      | Kansas City, Mo.   |
| July | 1  | - | drew | Dory Funk Jr.      | Albuquerque, N.M.  |
| July | 2  | - | drew | Jerry Brisco,      | Charlotte, N.C.    |
| July | 3  | - | beat | Jonathan Boyd,     | Raleigh, N.C.      |
| July | 5  | - | beat | Rip Hawk,          | Norfolk, Va.       |
| July | 12 | - | beat | Ole Anderson,      | Norfolk, Va.       |
| July | 17 | - | beat | Stan Stasiak,      | Portland, Ore.     |

Altho Harley lost the title on July 20 to Brisco in Houston, he continues to maintain a most successful record. On Oct. 5, Race won the Missouri State title from Gene Kiniski in St. Louis, then won their rematch on Nov. 2. Nov. 15 he took a 2-3 fall bout from Dory Funk Jr. Race is a combination of wrestling science and brutality, who can take it as well as dish it out. His career has certainly been enhanced in 1973 and it would be a surprise to no one if he would sometime in the near future, regain the title.



## NICK BOCKWINKEL & RAY STEVENS - TOP TAG TEAM OF 1973!

On January 20, 1972, in a no disqualification match in Denver, Red Bastien & the Crusher lost the American Wrestling Alliance tag team championship. Since that date the tag team belts have been worn around the waists of Ray Stevens & Nick Bockwinkel, with the exception of one week (Dec.30-Jan.6) the span of time it took for them to get a rematch with Billy Robinson & Verne Gagne. Their record speaks for itself in proclaiming they have been "fighting champions" this year. They have made successful title defenses against many great challenging combinations such as: Ivan Koloff & Big K, Dusty Rhodes & Dick Murdoch, Wahoo McDaniel & Ken Patera, McDaniel & Billy Red Cloud, McDaniel & Billy Robinson, McDaniel & The Crusher, Crusher & Robinson, Robinson & Geoff Portz, Robinson & Don Muraco, Muraco & Reggie Parks, Muraco & Wilbur Snyder, Muraco & McDaniel, McDaniel & Gene Kiniski. They even beat the Hawaiian tag champions - Neff Maivia & Sam Steamboat. Their most perilous bouts have been against the legendary Dick the Bruiser. But even with such outstanding partners as the Crusher, Robinson, McDaniel, and Gagne, he has not been able to lift their crowns. As the year came to a conclusion, Nick & Ray turned back their #1 challengers, Red Bastien & Billy Robinson on several occasions. They have been able to subordinate their individual identities and talents for the goal of BEING the BEST tag team - using a perfect blend of experience, deception, brutality, and wrestling expertise.





Listing of important regional & area titles and who held them during 1973:

WWWF Tag - Toru Tanaka & Mr. Fugi, Tony Garea & Haystacks Calhoun, Tanaka-Fugi, Garea-Dean Ho

Maritime Province - Beast, Jim Dillion, Karl von Krupp

Maritime Tag - Bobby Kay & Leo Burke, Fred Sweetan & Karl von Steiger, Beast-B. Kay

Grand Prix (Quebec) - Killer Kowalski, Edouard Carpentier, Mad Dog Vachon

Grand Prix Tag - Paul & Joe LeDuc, Buddy Roberts & Jerry Brown, Ed Carpentier & Bruno Sammartino, Gilles Poisson & Killer Kowalski, Gino Brito & Dino Bravo

NWF (NY, Ohio) - Johnny Valentine, Jacques Rougeau

NWF North American - Johnny Powers, Karl von Krupp, Powers, Eric the Animal, Powers, Psycho, Powers

NWF Tag - Parisi & Martinez, Rougeau-Powers

U.S. (Mich-Ohio) Sheik, Bobo Brazil, Sheik, Johnny Valentine, Sheik, Valentine, Sheik

World Tag (Mich-Ohio) Kurt von Hess-Karl von Sholtz, Fred Curry-Luis Martinez, Ben Justice-Killer Brooks, Stomper-Bobo Brazil, Fred Curry-Marino

WWA (Ind-Mich) Baron von Raschke, Cowboy Bob Ellis

WWA Tag - BlackJacks Lanza & Mulligan, Bruiser-Crusher, Ernie Ladd-Raschke, Bruiser-Sammartino

Missouri - Harley Race, Johnny Valentine, Terry Funk, Gene Kiniski, Race

Central States (Ia-Kan-Mo) Omar Atlas, Roger Kirby, Danny Little Bear, Bulldog Bob Brown

Central States Tag - Kirby-Race, Rufus Jones-Bob Geigel, Togo-TokyoJoe, Geigel-Brazil, Togo-TokyoJoe, Mike George-Jim Brunzell

Western Canada - Archie Goldie, Gil Hayes, Tor Kamata, Omar Atlas

Western Canada Tag - Michel Martel-Danny Babich, Gino Caruso-Carlos Belafonte, Yokouchi-Fuji, Bill Cody-Dan Kroffat, Af-Sika Anoai, Yokouchi-Fuji, Cody Bob Pringle

Pacific NorthWest (British Columbia) Gene Kiniski, The Brute, Sean Regan, Mike Webster, The Brute



## Regional Title Listing - continued

- Canadian Tag - Bulldog Brown-John Quinn, Dutch Savage  
& Steven Little Bear, Brute-Mike Webster  
Quinn-Gerry Romano, Brute-Gene Kiniski  
Sika & Afa Anoi, Bob Ramstead-Mr.X
- Washington State - Arman Hussein, Bobo Mongol (Bull  
Johnson)
- Washington Tag - Luke Brown-Ray Steele, Paddy Ryan-  
John Quinn
- Northwest (Ore) Bull Ramos, Dutch Savage, Ramos, Snuka
- Northwest Tag - Savage-LittleBear, Ramos-Clay Spencer,  
Manuel Cruz-Al Madril, Ramos-Ripper  
Collins, Savage-Jimmy Snuka
- U.S. (No.Calif) Pat Patterson, Mephisto, Patterson,  
Lonnie Mayne
- U.S. Tag - Patterson-Rocky Johnson, Mephisto-Shibuya,  
Patterson-Johnson, Interns, Shibuya-Saito,  
Patterson-Johnson
- Americas (S. Calif) - Victor Rivera, Black Gordman,  
Rivera, Terry Funk, Rivera, John  
Tolos, Pak-Song
- Americas Tag - Gordman-Goliath, David Morgan-Raul Mata  
Morgan-Tony Rocco, Gordon Nelson-Rip  
Collins, Ray Mendoza-Raul Reyes, Gord-  
man-Goliath, Rivera-Reyes, Mr. Wrestling  
& Paksong, Reyes-Ruben Juarez, Dr. Death  
& Mr. Wrestling, Rivera-Mata
- Rocky Mtn - Karl von Steiger, Ricky Romero
- Western States (W. Tex) VonSteiger, Romero, Curtis  
Iaukea, Ciclon Negro, Terry Funk
- Western States Tag - Nick Kozak-Al Hayes, Don-John  
Fargo, Moose Morowski-Romero,  
Gordman-Goliath, Romero-Morowski,  
Don Fargo-Hank James
- American (Texas) - Johnny Valentine, Missouri Mauler,  
Fritz von Erich
- American Tag - Brute Bernard-Mo. Mauler, Jose Lothario-  
Ivan Putski, Gordman-Goliath, Lothario-  
Mil Mascaras
- Texas State - Jose Lothario, BlackJack Mulligan,  
Lothario
- U.S. Jr. Hvywt - Don Greene, Lou Thesz, Greene, Loren-  
zo Parente, Greene
- NWA Jr. Hvywt - Danny Hodge, Ken Mantell



## Regional Title Listings - concluded

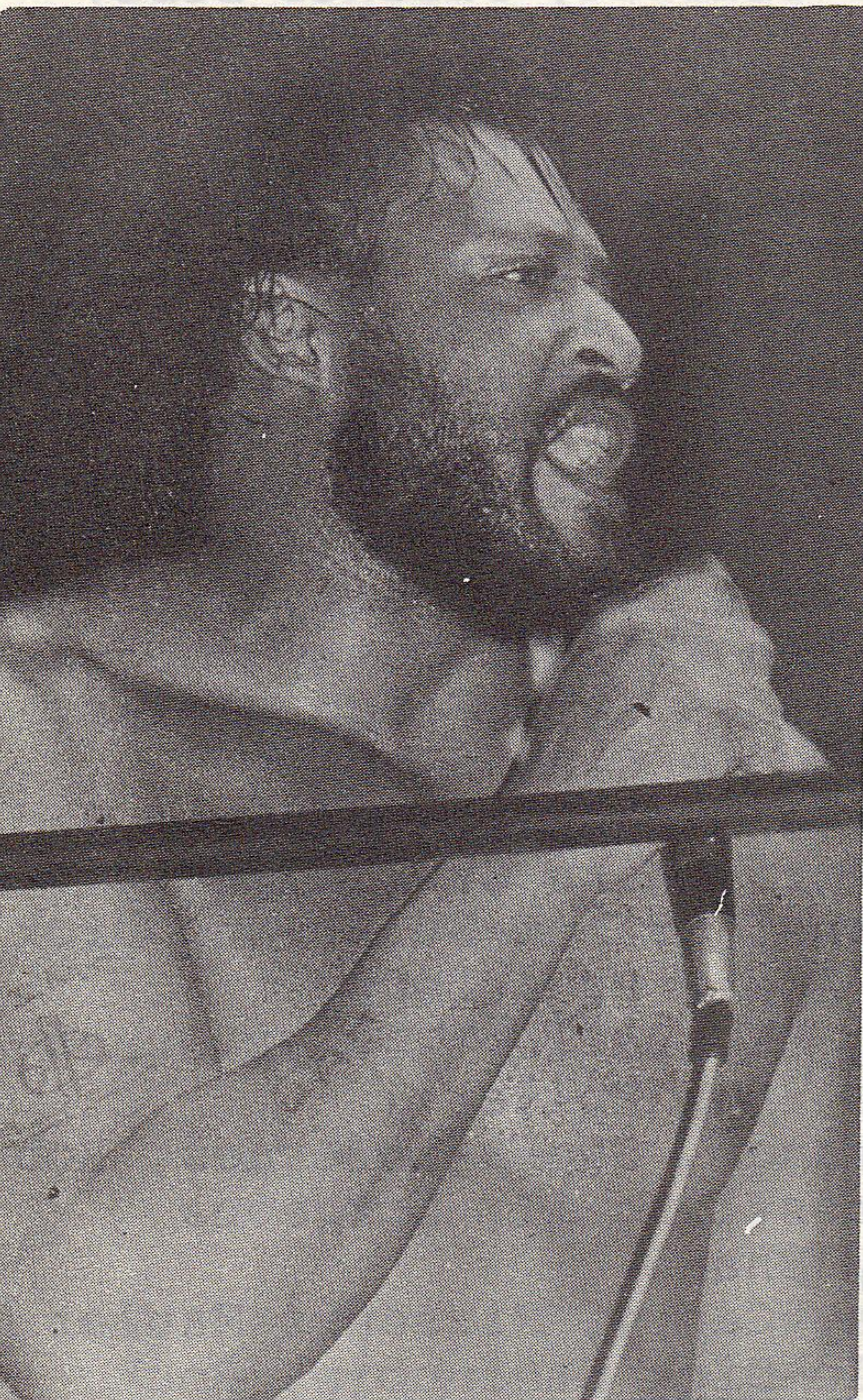
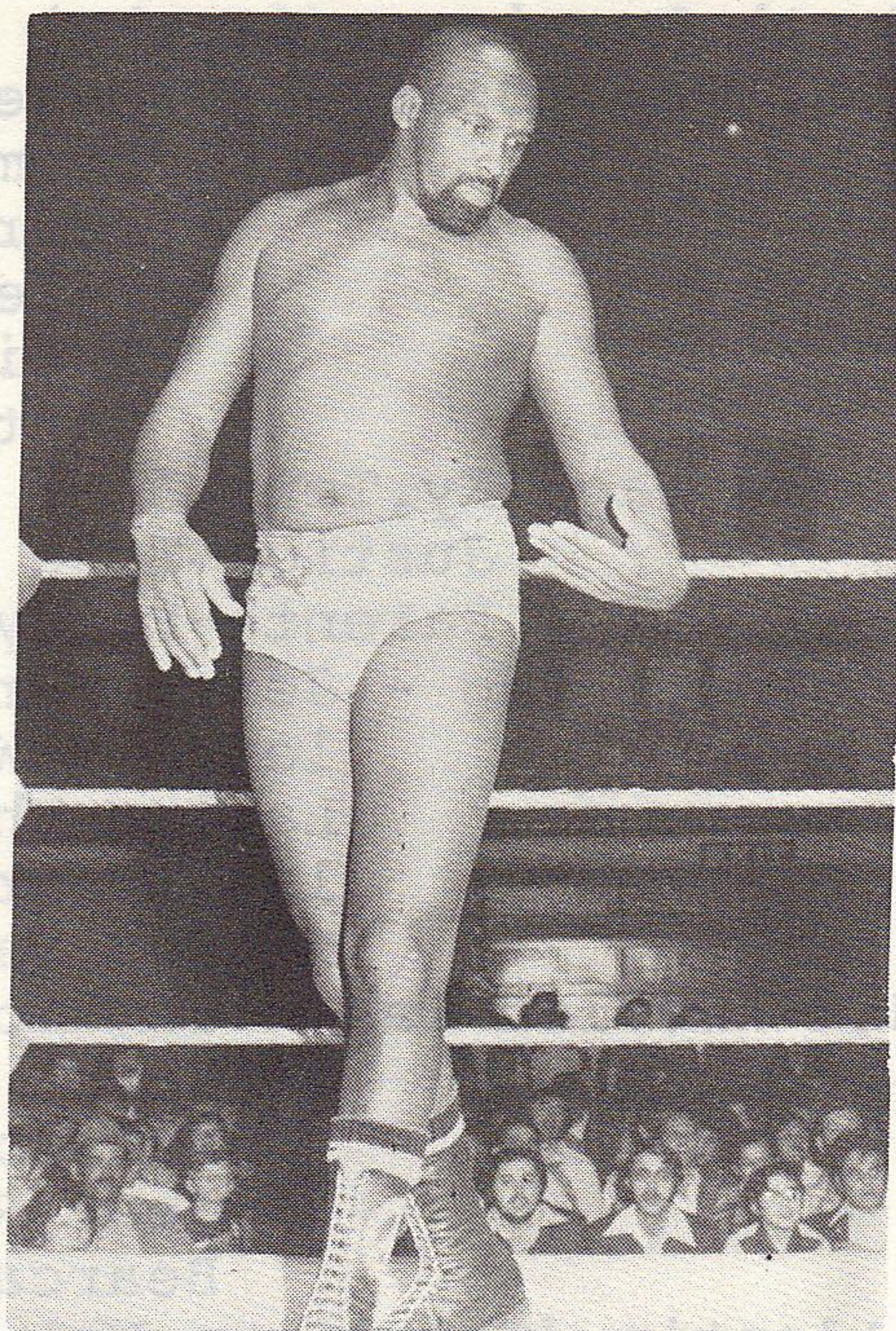
- North American (Ozarks) - Bill Watts, Tank Morgan
- U.S. Tag (Ozarks) - Duke Meyers-Terry Garvin, Dennis Stamp-Bullinski, Buddy Roberts-Jerry Brown, Eddie Sullivan-Rip Tyler, Dewey Robertson-Stamp, Tapia-Edouard Perez, Mephisto-Dante
- World Tag (Ky.Tenn.Ala) - Fabulous Kangaroos, Ben Justice-Tojo Yamamoto, Kangaroos, Lorenzo Parente-Randy Curtis, Interns
- Southern Tag - Jerry Jarrett-Jackie Fargo, Jerry Lawler-Jim White, Roughhouse Fargo-Jarrett Lawler-White, Tommy Gilbert-Eddie Marlin, Terry & Ron Garvin, Gilbert-Marlin Masked Yankees, Gilbert-Marlin
- Mid-America Tag - Yamamoto-T. Gilbert, Parente-Bobby Hart, Gilbert-Marlin, Garvin-Meyers, Yamamoto-J. Fargo, Garvin-Meyers, Joey Rossi-Bearcat Brown, Kangaroos, Bearcat Brown-Don Greene
- Atlantic (Carolinas-Va) - Rip Hawk, Jerry Brisco, Ole Anderson, Jerry Brisco
- Atlantic Tag - Johnny Weaver-Art Neilson, Ole & Gene Anderson, TBolt Patterson-Brisco, Andersons, Nelson Royal-Sandy Scott, Mike York-Brute Bernard
- Southern (Fla) - Buddy Colt, Mark Lewin, Colt, Mr. Kleen Paul Jones, Ron Fuller, Dusty Rhodes
- Florida - Jack Brisco, Colt, Jones, Tim Woods, Jones, Colt, Jones, Colt, Eddie Graham, Colt
- Florida Tag - Bobby Shane-Chris Markoff, Woods-Big Bad John, Colt-Markoff, Mike Graham-Kevin Sullivan, Samoans, Graham-Sullivan, Dick Slater-Rhodes, Joe & Paul LeDuc
- Georgia (NWA) - Mr. Wrestling II, Bill Watts, Mr Wrestling I, Watts, Ron Fuller
- Georgia Tag - Mike & Eddie Graham, Super Infernos, Bob Orton Jr-Mr. Wrestling II, Gorgeous George Jr-Bobby Shane
- Georgia (Ind.) - Assassin, Ray Cauty, Missouri Mauler
- Georgia Tag - Argentina Apollo-Dick Steinborn, Rock Hunter-Assassin



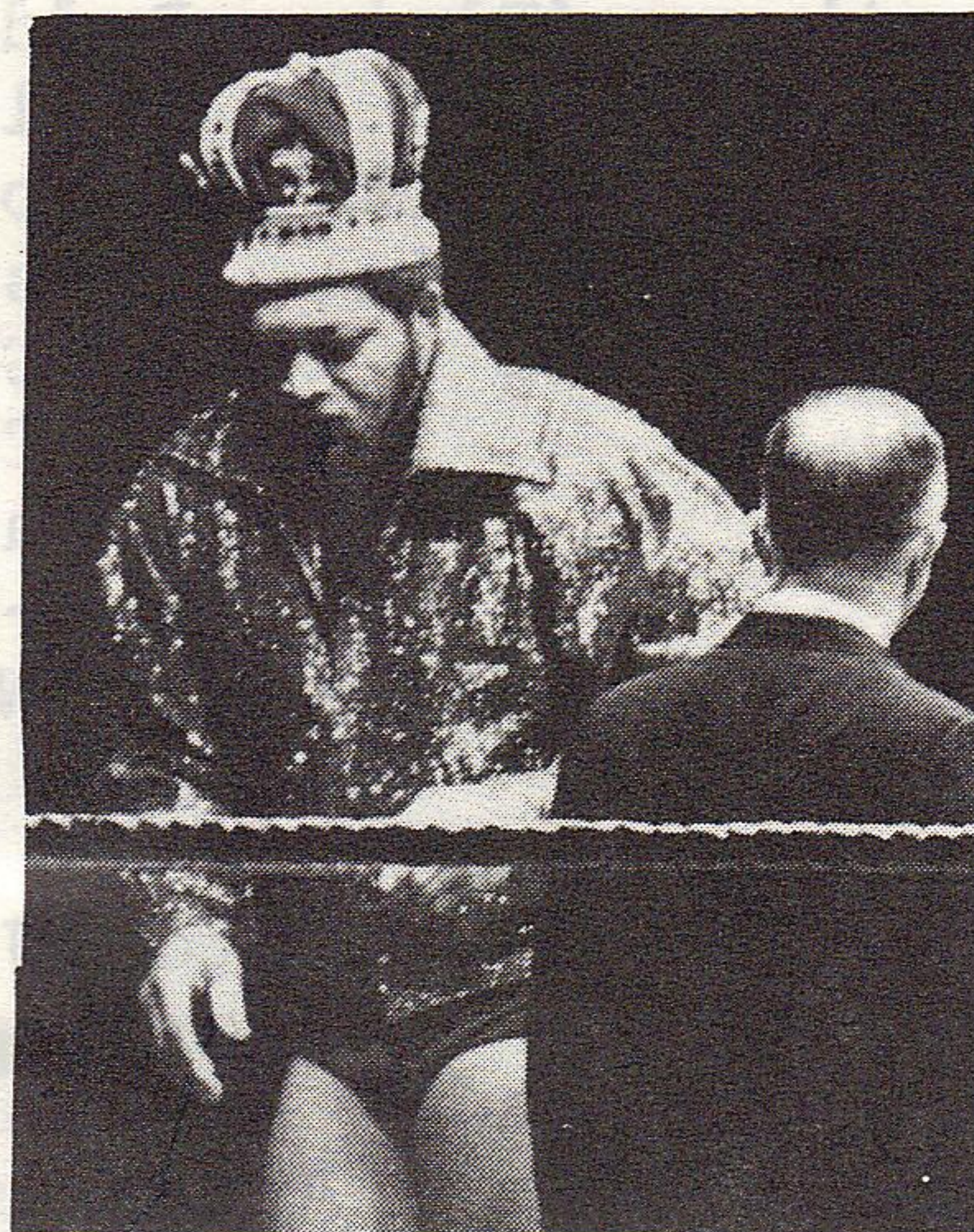
RUFUS R. JONES



SONNY KING



\* \* BLACK STARS \* \*



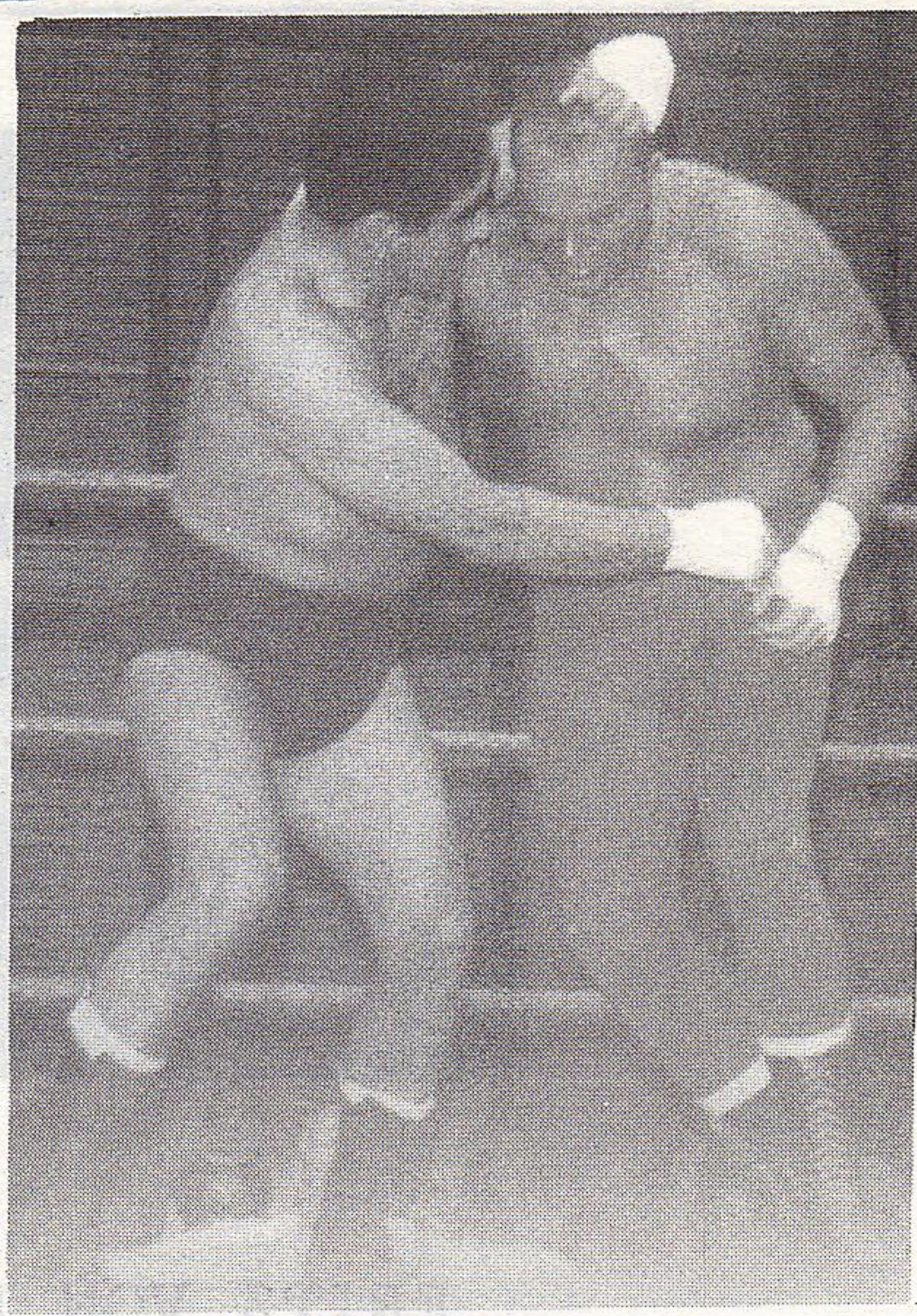
THUNDERBOLT PATTERSON

ERNIE LADD



WRESTLING'S HEADLINE STORIES OF 1973

1973 will best be remembered by wrestling fans as the year of the Interim Champions. . . East Coast fans have long debated as to whether Pedro Morales or Bruno Sammartino was the better wrestler. Their Sept. 30, 1972, clash proved nothing conclusive, ending in a 76 minute curfew draw. NWA buffs have had a similar argument going, wondering whether Jack Brisco was actually better than champion Dory Funk Jr. There many matches did not seem to change many minds. When 1973 began, Funk and Morales held the titles. When 1973 came to an end, Brisco, not Funk was the NWA Champion and Bruno Sammartino had replaced Morales as the WWWF King. . . The titles did not exchange directly however, as Brisco beat Harley Race (conqueror of Funk, who held title May 24 to July 20) and Sammartino pinned Stan Stasiak, who had defeated Morales in Philadelphia (Dec.1) 10 days earlier.

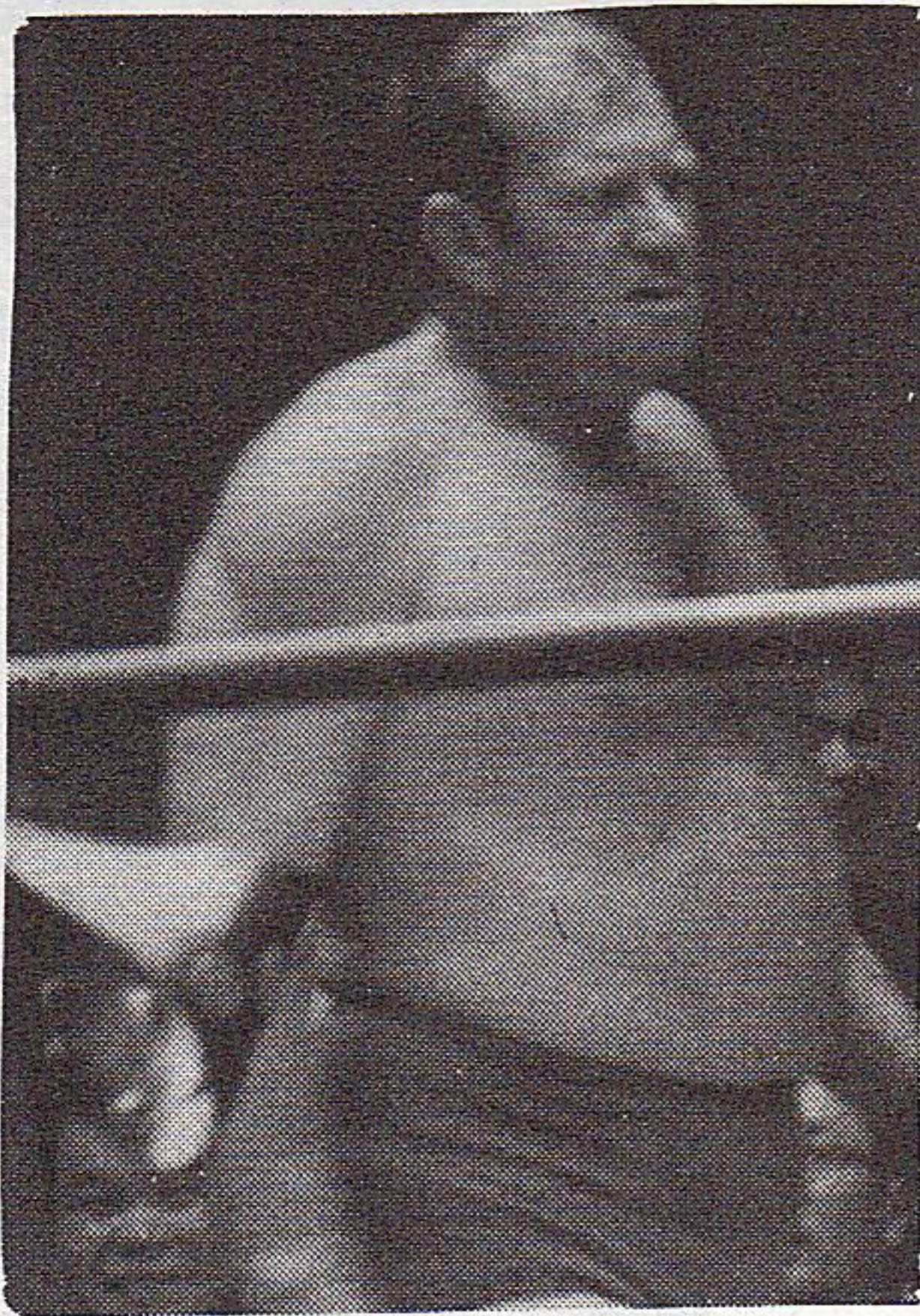


BULL CURRY VS  
STAN STASIAK

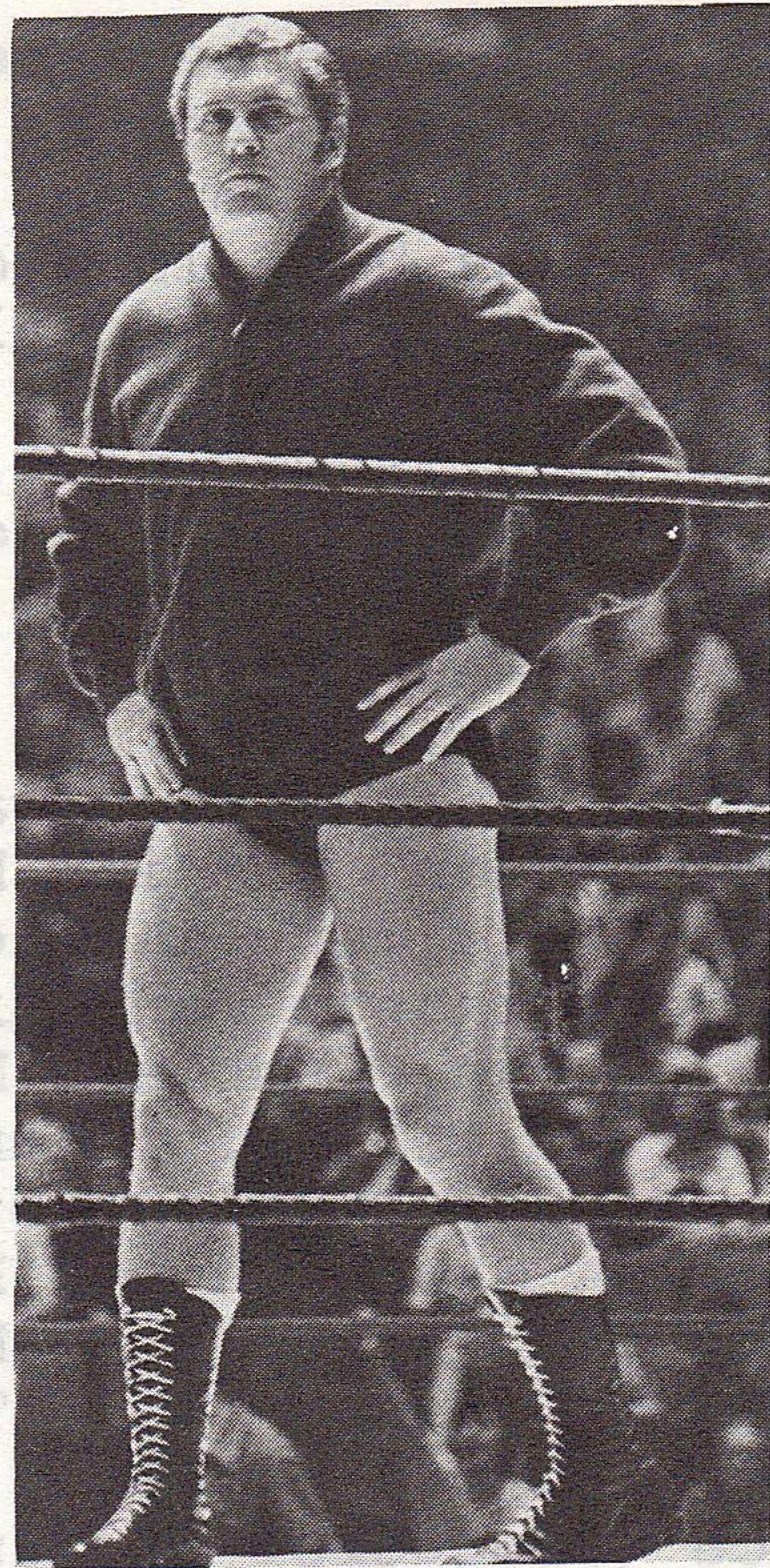
\* \* \* \* \*

Heartbreak was the theme of 1973 for Dory Funk Jr. The NWA Champion suffered a shoulder separation on Feb. 28, when the pickup truck he was driving on his father's Umbarger, Texas, ranch overturned . . . Dory did not return to mat action until May and was just rounding into shape, when he was upset by Harley Race, who won the title. . . He did not know it at the time, but a bigger loss was just around the corner. Just 9 nights later, his father, Dory Funk Sr. was stricken with a heart-attack at the ranch. He was rushed to an Amarillo hospital, arriving 12:30 A.M., June 3, but it was too late for medical attention. . . Dory Sr. lived long enough to sire 4 sons, and was fortunate to see two of them, follow in his successful footsteps in pro wrestling. A native of Hammond, Ind. who excelled in





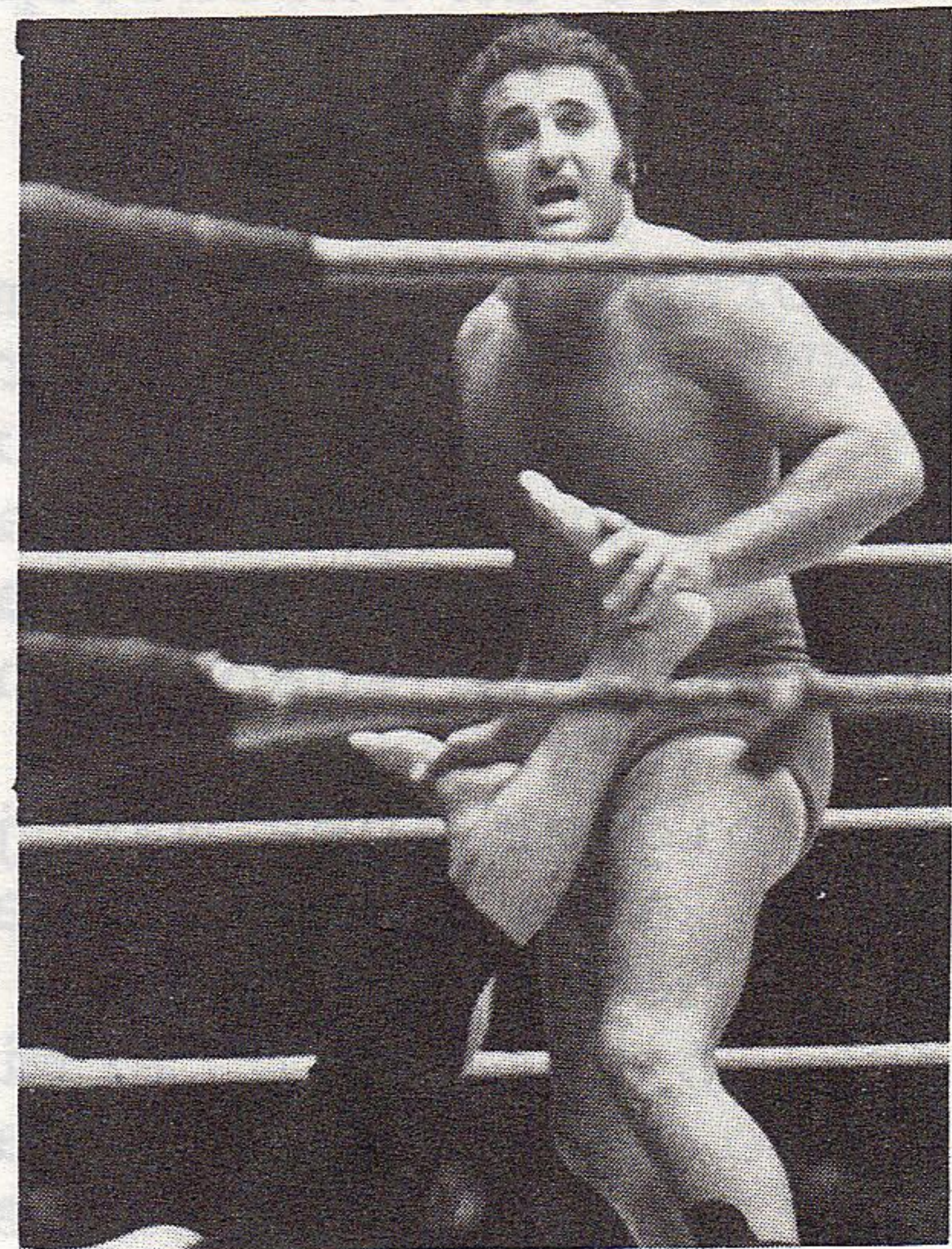
FRITZ VON ERICH



DEWEY ROBERTSON



BRUISER & CRUSHER



FRED CURRY



high school wrestling, he settled in West Texas after serving in the Navy during WWII, and earned much in love and admiration due to his personality, generosity and wrestling ability. He was very close to the Cal Farley Boys Ranch and served 3 years as Superintendent

## DEATHS

At age 54, Dory Funk Sr. left the wrestling scene but he was not the only departure of 1973 . . . Popular preliminary wrestler, Alex Medina (age 32) died on Apr. 20 of a brain hemorrhage. He wrestled predominantly in the Virginia-Carolinas region. . . Jim Crockett, the excellent Charlotte, N.C. promoter, passed away on April 1, at the age 64. . . Another long-time wrestling promoter, Philadelphia's Ray Fabiani also died this year. . . So did Bill Kuusisto, former wrestler, who served as the right-hand man of AWA promoter, Wally Karbo in Minneapolis. Bill was 55. . . Another well-known name from wrestling's past, Ralph (Wild Red) Berry made the obituary page on July 28. He lived in Pittsburg, Kansas, and was 66. He was one of the all-time great light-heavyweight stars and continued his fame as a manager, first for the original Fabulous Kangaroos and then for several WWWF villains. I am Right in saying, they will be missed in 1974.

## INJURIES

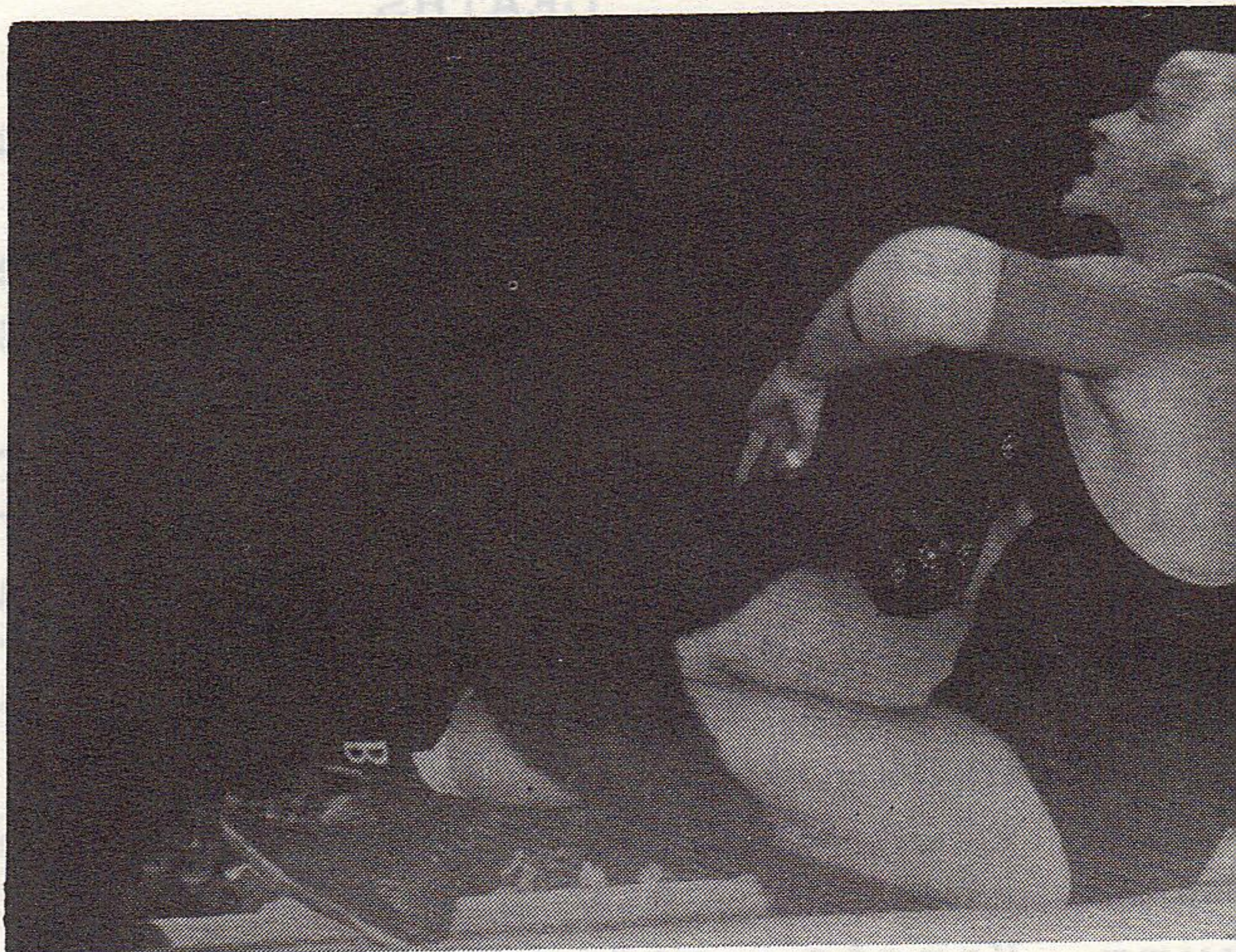
Many wrestlers besides Dory Funk Jr. were sidelined for part of 1973 due to injury. . . Apparently it was a shoulder separation that accounted for young Don Muraco's long absence from the West Coast this summer. . . In March, Johnny Valentine was hospitalized due to a serious blockage on one side of his heart. It was feared he would be forced to retire, but the condition was cleared up and he returned to mat action. . . As the year was coming to an end, British Columbia star, Duncan McTavish suffered a serious tear of ligaments in his knee. . . Up-and coming young West Texas grappler, Stan Hanson, also suffered a serious knee injury and Larry "Pretty Boy" Hennig missed a couple months with a torn achilles tendon. . . Bob Sweetan suffered two broken ankles when the car he was driving was involved in an accident. George Hultz (broken arm) and



Duke Meyers (broken back & hip) were also riding in the car. . . Swede Hanson had a broken leg. . . The top ring rope broke, causing Tim Woods to fall out of the ring, injuring him so he could not continue in his championship match with Dory Funk Jr.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bobby Heenan made headlines not only for increasing his stable of mat stars. . . Heenan participated on 2 shows in which names were drawn from a hat to determine what men would wrestle against Terrible Ten the wrestling Bear. Bobby was chosen both times and did he hollar "conspiracy". It



"TERRIBLE TED VS BOBBY HEENAN"

didn't matter that he had help (Von Raschke in one bout & the Beast in the other) Bobby was mangled and helpless against the big bear. . . Heenan also bit off more than he could chew when he began irritating tv announcer, Sam Mennacker. Sam finally was signed for several matches with Bobby and usually came out of it much better off, including a boxing match where he bloodied up and knocked out the blonde manager.

\* \* \* \* \*

On Jan. 4, there was a reuniting of the great Mark Lewin-Don Curtis tag team of the past. Curtis, who is the Jacksonville (Fla.) promoter combined with his old friend to face the Florida tag team champions, Bobby Shane & Chris Markoff, who ended up getting disqualified. Curtis, like most Americans, has had very little chance to see Lewin wrestle, as most of his recent bouts have been in British Columbia, Japan, &



Australia. . . Larry (Lars Anderson) Heiniemi (had formed a highly successful tag team with Paul DeMarco in Northern California) and Buddy Wolff (had been on the East Coast) both returned to the Midwest and began wrestling as a tag team combination. They had been teammates at college (St. Cloud, Minn.). . . Hank James teamed with brother, Bobo Brazil, on their short tour of Japan. They have never teamed or even acknowledged kinship while wrestling in this country. They lost tag matches to Kintaro Oki & The Destroyer and to Oki & Shohei Baba. . . "Soul Brothers" Bearcat Wright and Sonny King joined forces in Detroit to win over Bolo & Geeto Mongol and Jerry Graham & Ali Baba.

\* \* \* \* \*

Anton Geesink, the World's Judo Champion, made his pro wrestling debut in Japan on Nov. 24 in a tag match with Shohei Baba against Ciclon Negro & Bruno Sammartino. After Negro was disqualified for his actions against Baba in the first fall, Geesink made it 2 straight, beating Ciclon with a backbreaker. . . Iowa State college wrestler, Chris Taylor who earned a bronze medal for America in the Olympics, made his pro debut in Minnesota on Dec. 8, crushing Rene Goulet. Taylor creates an awesome picture in the ring with his strength, mobility, wrestling knowledge and huge size (450 lbs)



DEN PATERA

Chris' meager December competition against the likes of Ric Flair and Bill Crouch off little to suggest how great he will become. . . It appears as if he will climb as rapidly as Ken Patera, who won a bronze medal himself at the Olympic games for weight-lifting. Patera capped his first year in pro wrestling by being named the AWA Rookie of the year. Those who watched Ken battle the top



alliance villains find it hard to regard him as a beginner. Patera's powerful bearhug has even caused the huge Russian Bear, Ivan Koloff, to submit.

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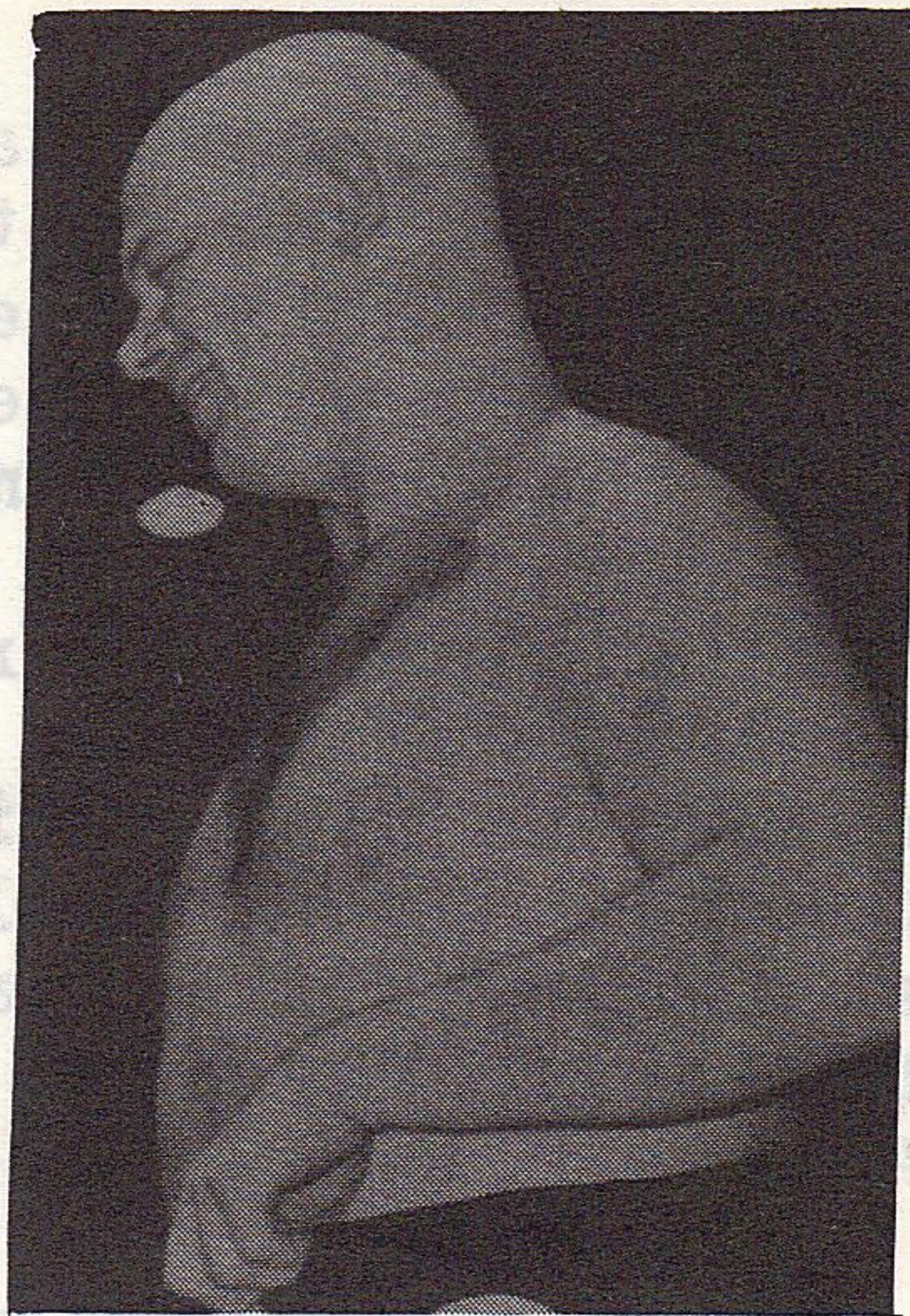
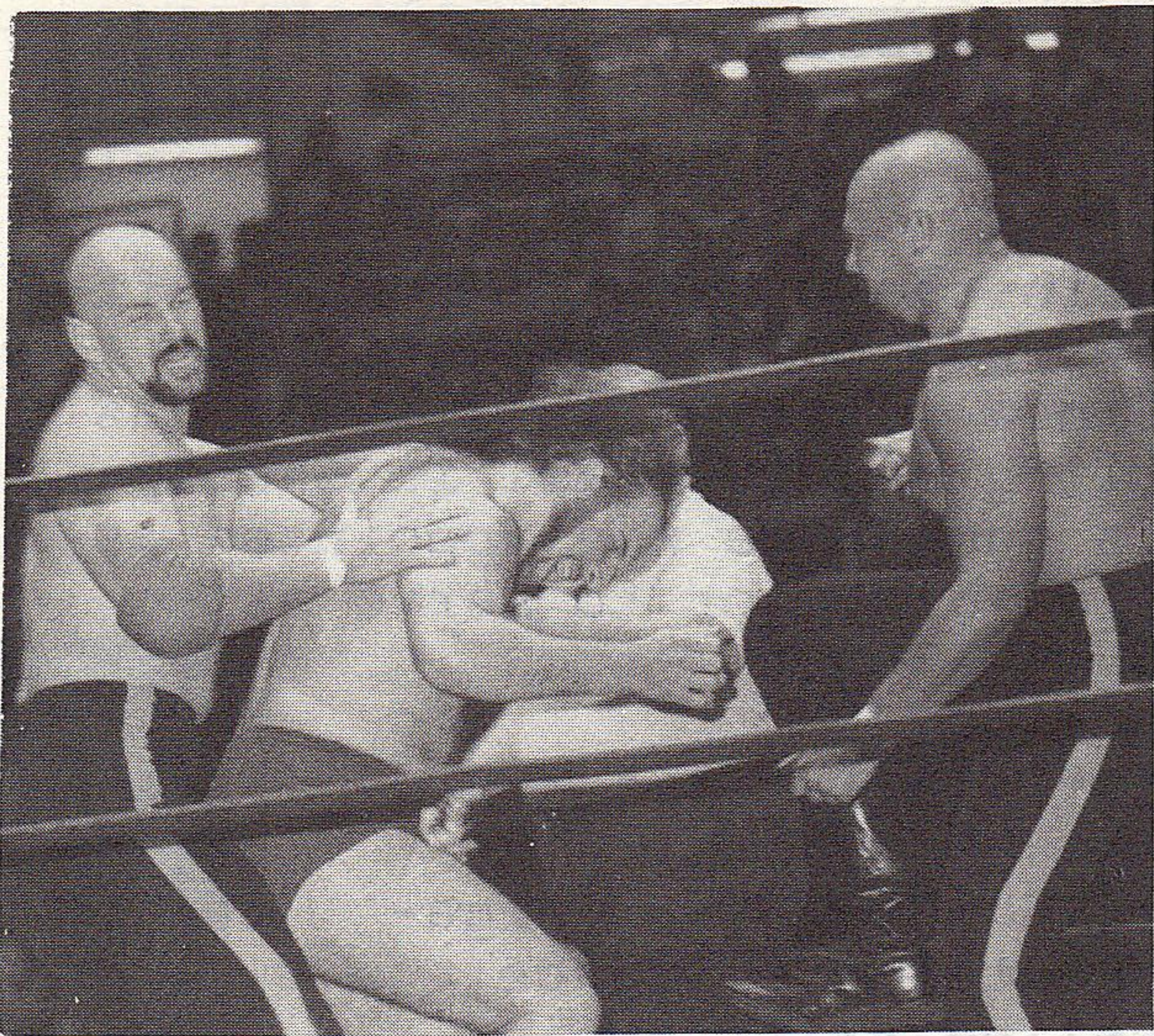
1973 saw the sons of several wrestlers begin mat careers of their own - Verne Gagne's son Greg; Mike Snyder the son of Wilbur; Tiger Conway's son Kit; Keith Hart is the latest son of Calgary Promoter, Stu Hart to move into wrestling; Lionel (Yvon) Robert, Raymond (Johnny) Rougeau, Joey (Len) Rossi, and Bob Orton Jr. all made great strides in their young careers also. In fact, Bob Orton Jr. was named the NWA Rookie of 1973.

Next to depending on the veteran wrestlers to induce their sons into wrestling, the best way pro wrestling has of obtaining new talent is bringing it in off the football field. Canadian star, Angelo Mosca, has been spending his off-seasons in the ring for years. Relative newcomers to this way of life include: Bobby Duncun (ex-Cardinal), Bob Bruggers (ex-Dolphin & Charger), Walter Johnson (Cleveland Browns), Clem Turner (Denver Broncos), and Ron Prichard (Cincinnati Bengals). Time will tell if any will develop into another Ladd, Kiniski, Bruiser, Snyder, McDaniel, etc.

Once wrestling gets into a man's bloodstream, its almost impossible to get out without a complete transfusion. To prove this point, 1973 saw 6-time NWA World Champion, Lou Thesz, come out of retirement again, as he pushes 60. Lou has wrestled mainly in the South, beating such men as Bobby Shane, Jerry Jarrett, Duke Meyers, Chris Markoff, Johnny Walker, and Les Thornton. Needless to say, Lou has always kept himself in tip-top shape. . . Other wrestlers competing with Thesz for the longevity record include Tony Altamore, Bozo (Frank Hickey) Brown, and Frank Valois, all of whom have been in the ring more this year than in the previous few. . Texas promoters and ex-wrestlers, Paul Boesch (Houston) and Floyd Emerson (Corpus Christi) were irked into getting back in the ring, in order to wrestle manager Gary Hart. . . El Paso promoter, Gory Guerrero, who held the Lightweight Championship in his prime, brought

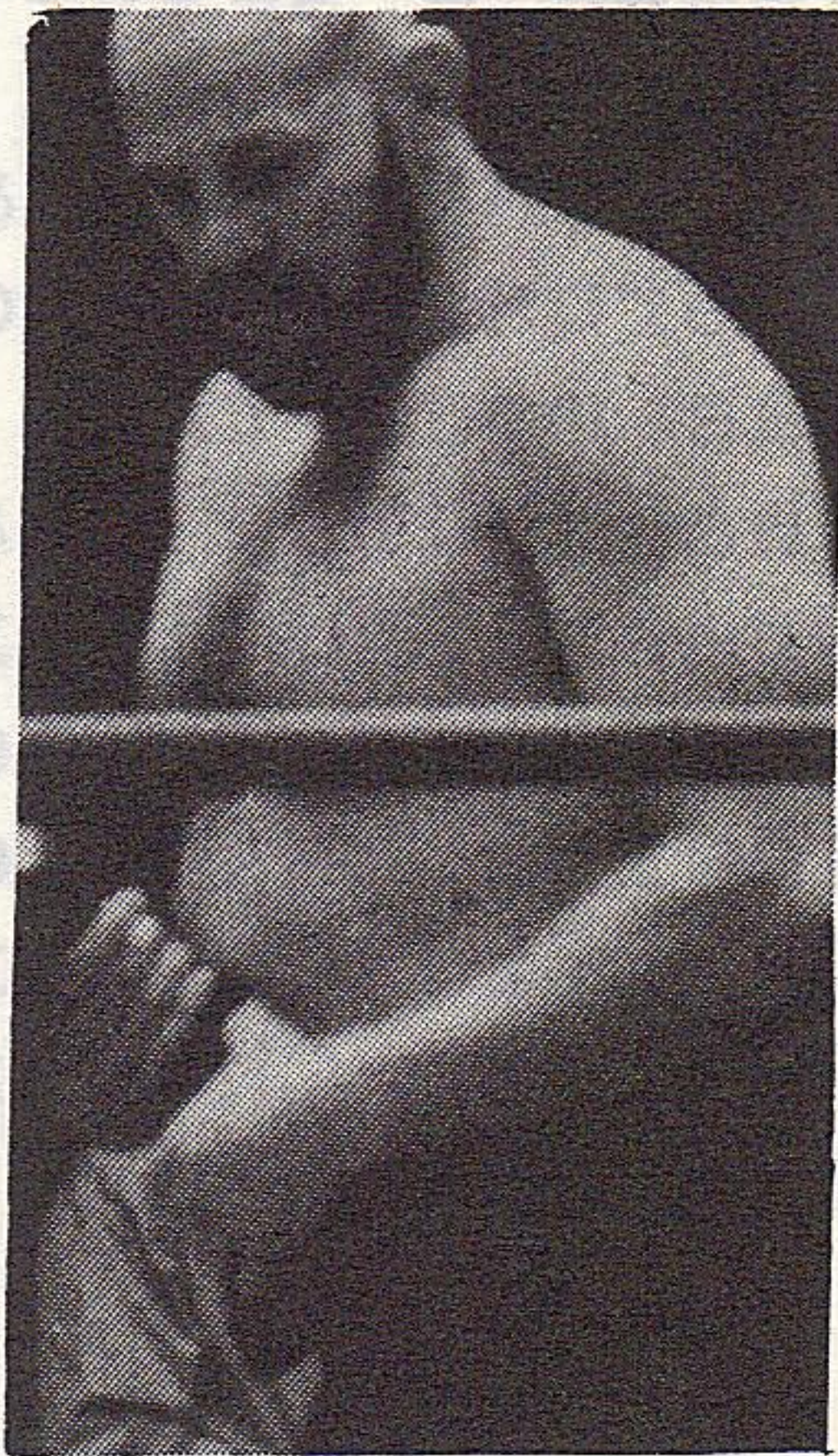


# VON SCHOTZ & VON HESS

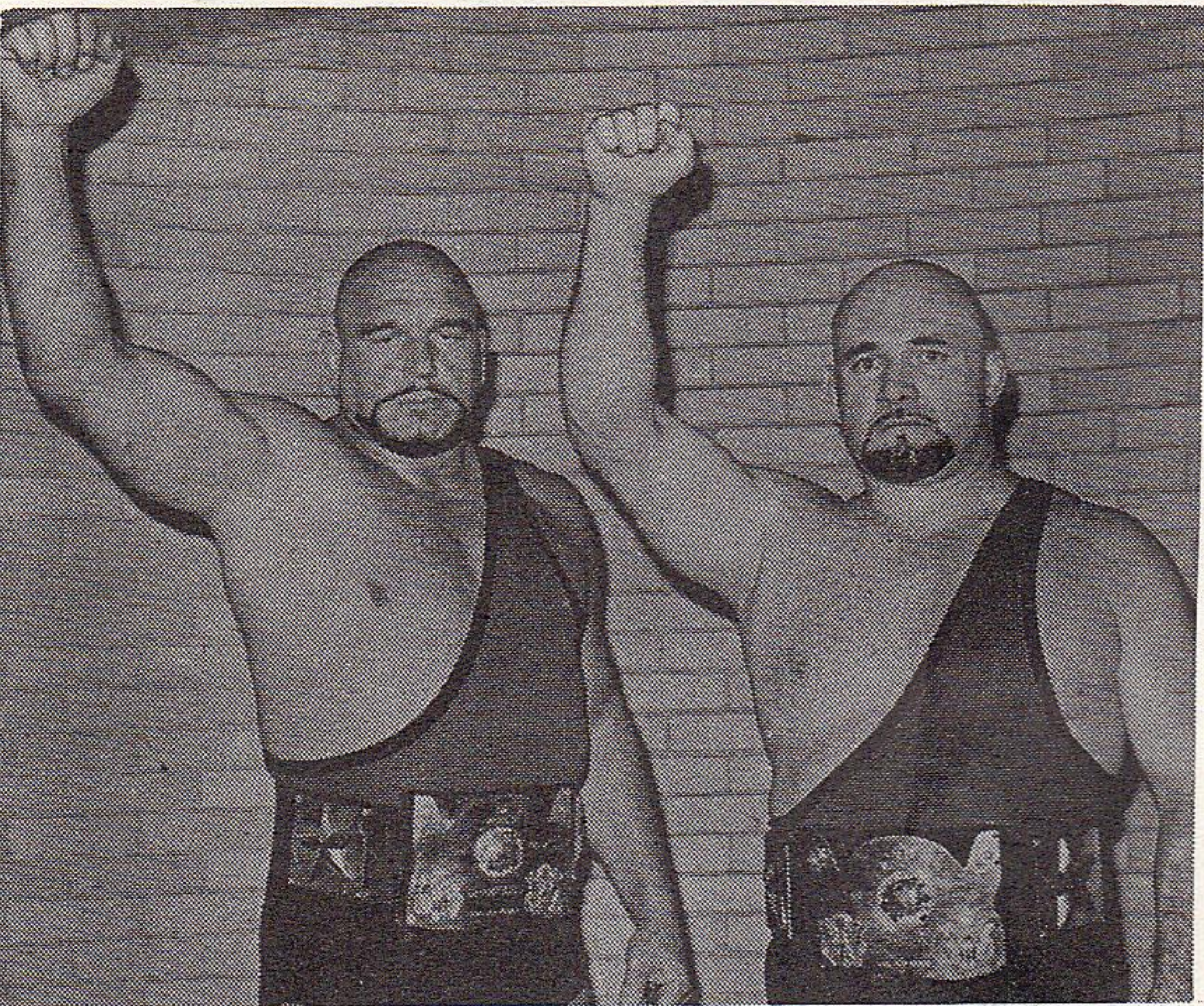


## THE HEATED GERMANS

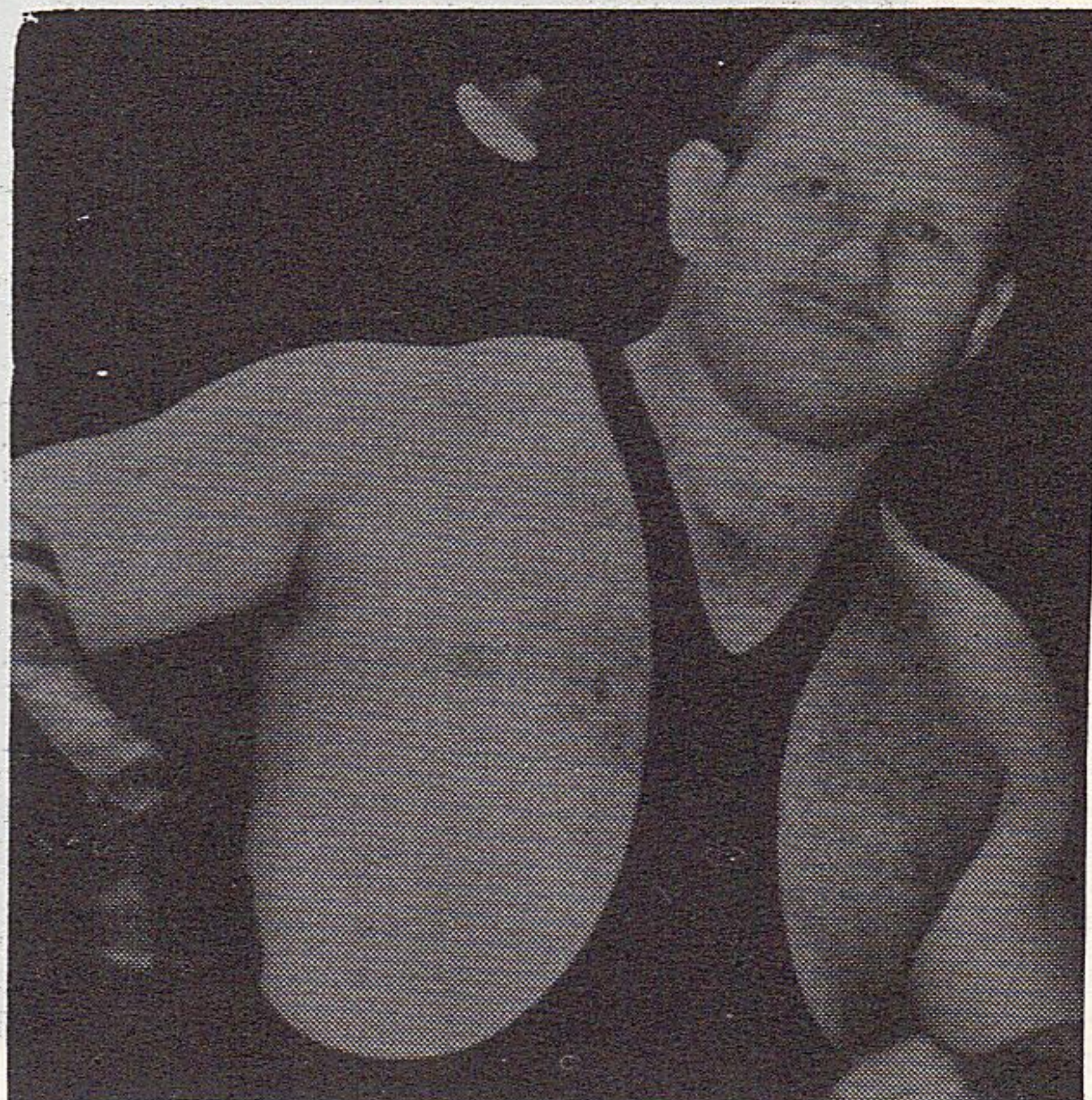
Baron von Raschke  
Karl von Krupp  
Waldo von Erich



## MAT WORLD CONTINUES W.W.II



KURT & KARL VON BRAUNNER





in his ex-partner, El Santo, and after dropping the first fall, came back to trounce Black Gordman & Goliath to win the next two falls. Gordman & Goliath had been denouncing the Mexican people and their heritage and it was with great satisfaction to Guerrero and the fans that he once more stepped into the ring for real.

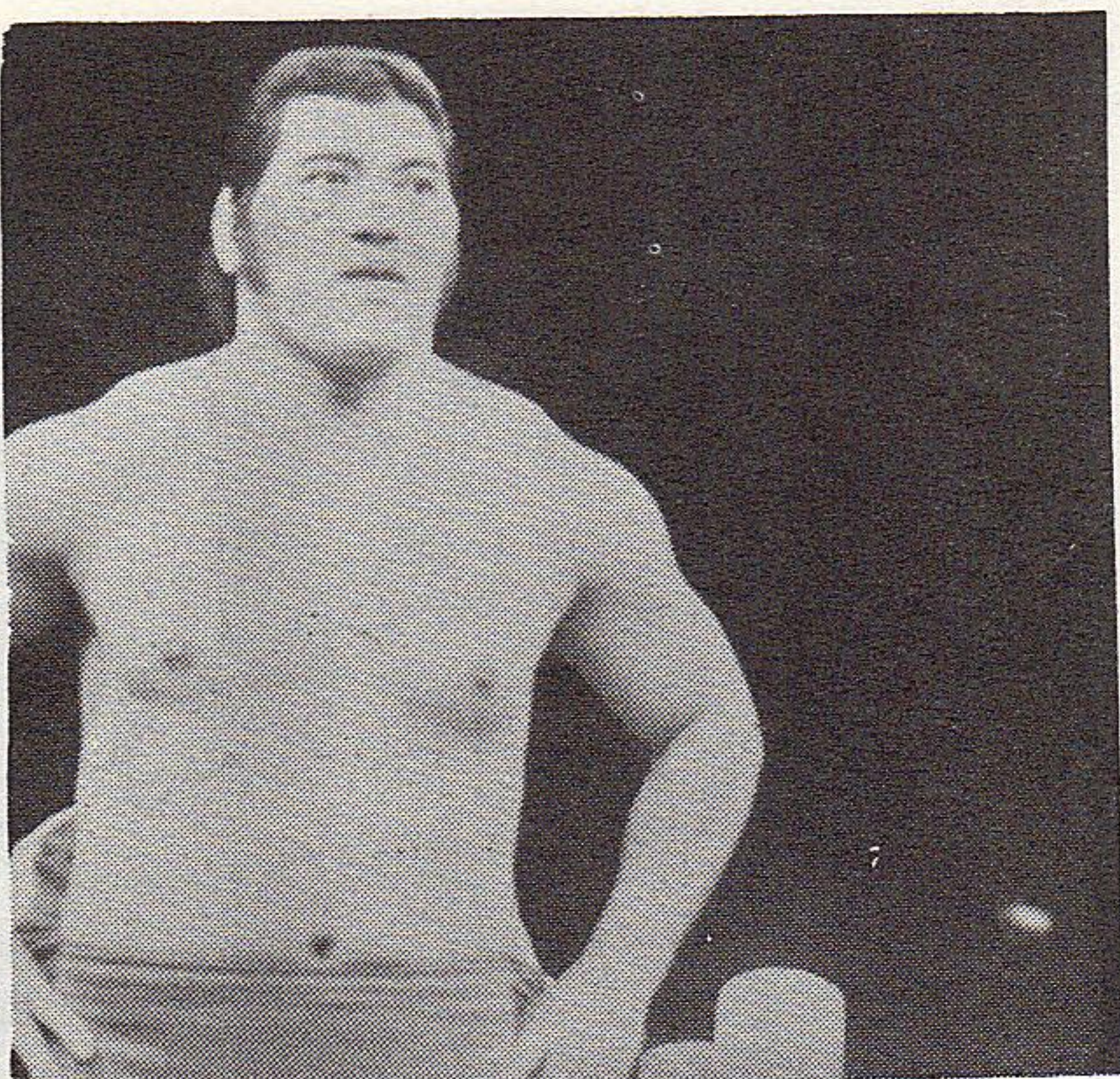
Bob Leipler (who wrestled in the Midwest as Duke Hoffman) is one former wrestler who is not expected to return to ring action. Since retiring in 1965 he has coached high school wrestling and football in the up-state New York area. This summer he was appointed as the first Physical Education director to serve at Attica Prison.

\* \* \* \* \*

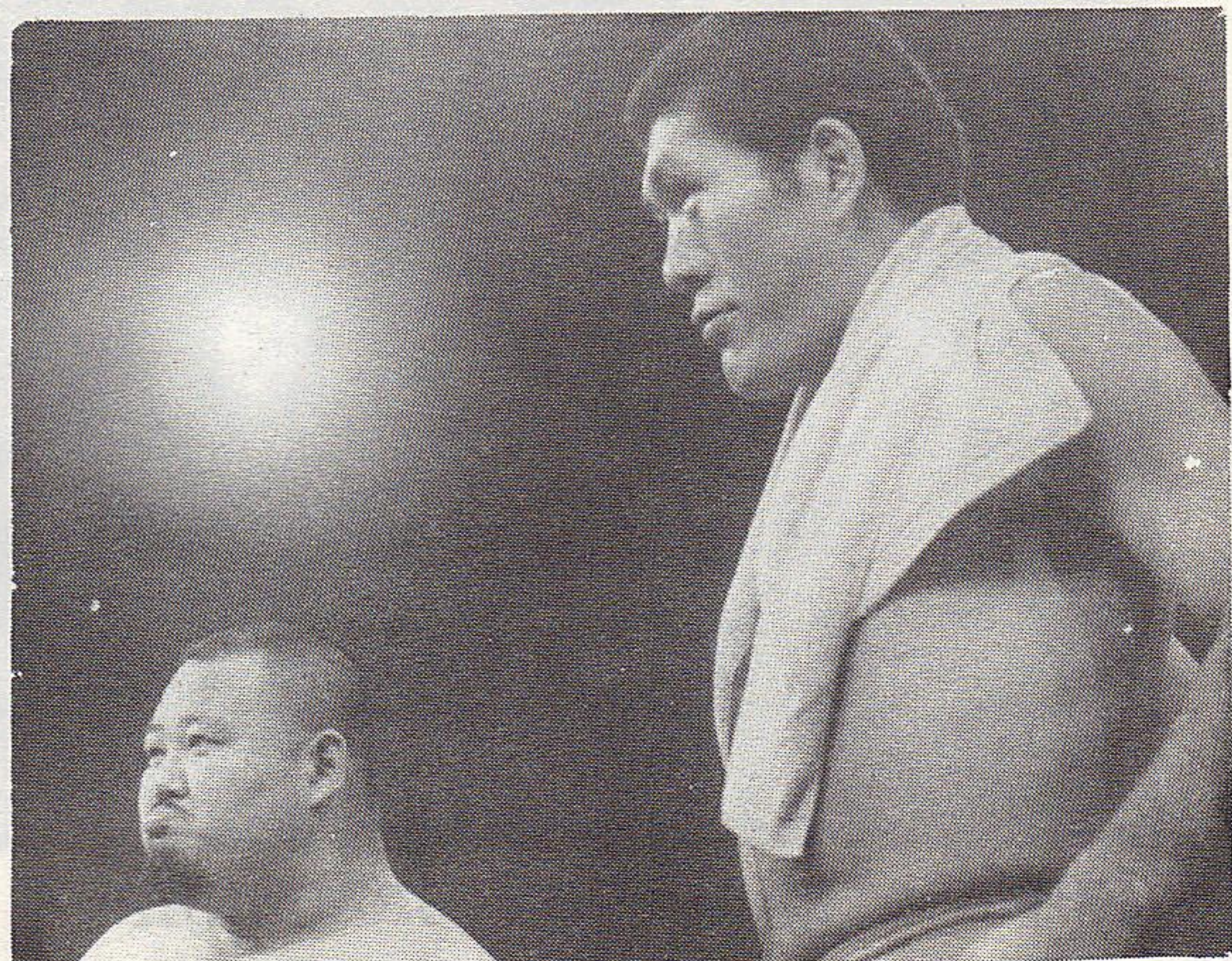
Japan's greatest wrestler, Shohei Baba, organized the All New Japan Wrestling Alliance, leaving the Japanese Wrestling Alliance in February. Shortly thereafter, the JWA (which was more than 20 years old) was absorbed into the ANJWA, that had joined with the National Wrestling Alliance. They developed the Pacific Wrestling Federation which recognized the following champions: Curtis Iaukea became the Pacific Champion; The Destroyer became the U.S. Pacific Champion; Ciclon Negro became the Latin America Champion; Mark Lewin became the Southern Hemisphere



INOUE



SHOZO KOBAYASHI



SUGIYAMA & SHOHEI BABA



Champion; and Baba won the tournament to become the PWF Champion. . . There are two other alliances in Japan besides a women's group. The International Wrestling Alliance, affiliated with the American Wrestling Alliance, which recognizes Shozo Kobayashi as its champion, and the independent group called the New Japanese Wrestling Alliance, spearheaded by Kinji "Antonio" Inoki. . . Without a doubt, Shohei Baba's record was the most impressive of any wrestler in the world in 1973. The greatest wrestlers in the U.S. came to Japan during the year; Baba met most of them and emerged triumphant. He can boast of victories over: Bobo Brazil, Don Leo Jonathan, Curtis Iaukea, Mark Lewin, Rufus Jones, Ciclon Negro, Pat O'Connor, Harley Race, Bull Ramos, Bruno Sammartino, Baron Scicluna, The Sheik, Wilbur Snyder, and Fritz von Erich. The most popular American wrestler to ever appear in Japan is the masked Destroyer. Baba beat the Destroyer and as agreed upon before the bout, the Destroyer became Baba's tag partner. They are virtually unbeatable as a team. . . The IWA Champion, Shozo Kobayashi, sports a record almost as impressive as Baba's. In 1973 he beat: Scandor Akbar, Red Bastien, Edouard Carpentier, Moose Cholak, Horst Hoffman, Rushre Kimura, Klondike Bill, Ivan Koloff, Angelo Mosca, Dick Murdoch, Dusty Rhodes, Gilles Poisson, and Mad Dog Vachon. Only for a 3 week period did Kobayashi lose the title - to Wahoo McDaniel (Nov. 9 to Nov. 30) but he won it back. Verne Gagne travelled to Japan and met Kobayashi twice, without losing his AWA title. . . Another legendary Japanese Wrestler, Yoshimura retired after a 19 year career. His last match was in the Osaka (where he once attended) College gym on Mar. 3, where he defeated Ruben Juarez.

\* \* \* \* \*

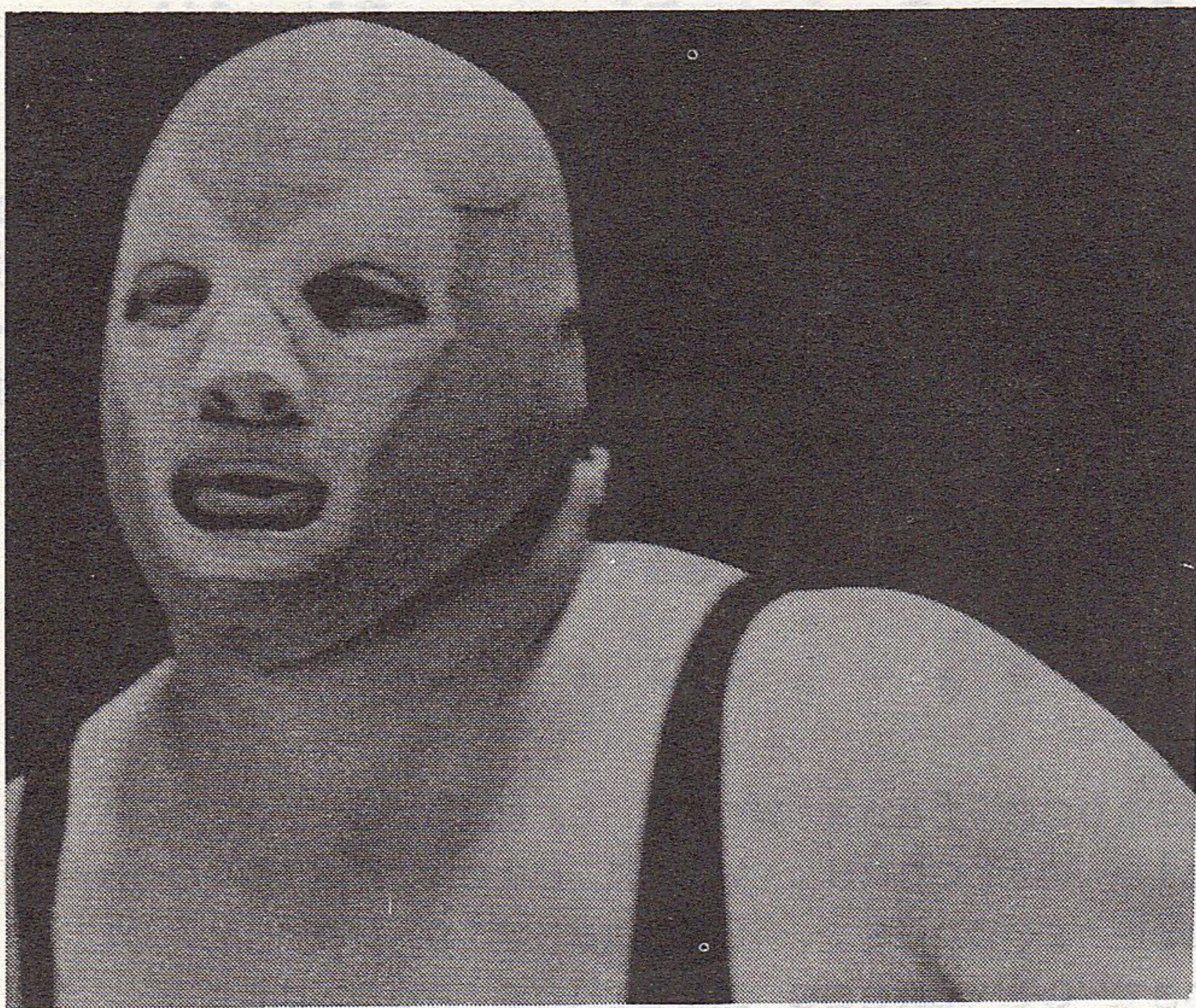
American Wrestling Alliance fans were treated to a series of European style matches, with each bout consisting of five 3-minute rounds. Germany's Horst Hoffman wrestled in most of these matches against England's Geoff Portz. Both wrestlers are so talented and capable that the great majority of these contests ended in 15 minute draws, however Hoffman emerged victorious on a couple occasions. . . English Superstar



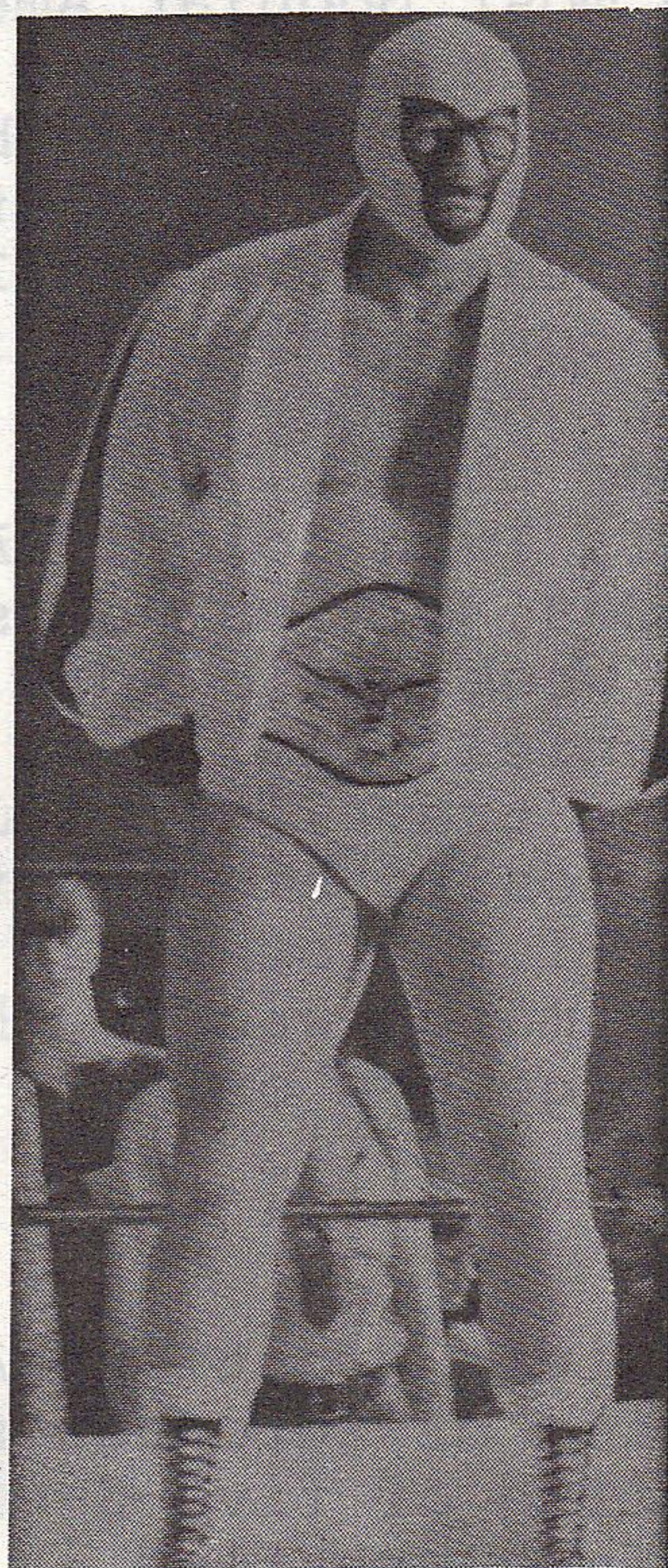
Billy Robinson also met Hoffman in a European style match, with Robinson obtaining the victory when Hoffman injured his shoulder and could not continue. Billy, the gentleman that he is, would not acknowledge such a victory and prefers having it declared a draw.

\* \* \* \* \*

Every year a number of masked men appear on the scene. The Invader burst upon the scene in St. Louis in January and made headlines at the Kiel Auditorium for more than 3 months. He demolished the Viking, won a 16-man battle royal, drew with Pat O'Connor, was involved in a couple tag team no contests, and then was disqualified against Missouri State Champion, Gene Kiniski. The mystery was solved when Bruno Sammartino wrestled him in a cage match. Bruno eventually maneuvered him into a neat cradle and at the same time pulled the mask off, revealing - Dick Murdoch. . . Mr. Wrestling II unmasked the Zodiac in Georgia, who proved to be Bob Orton. . . Mr. Wrestling II



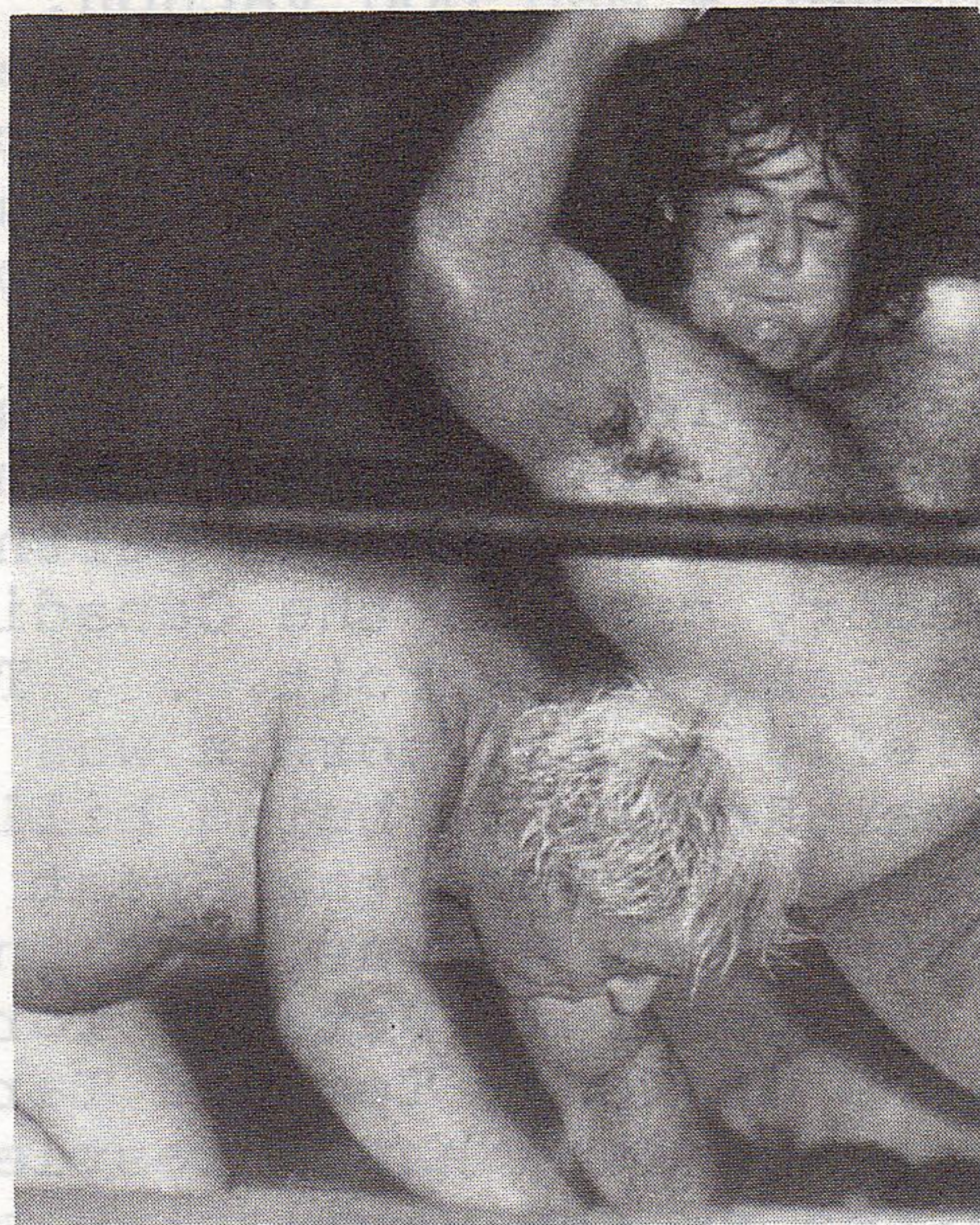
THE INVADER



MR. WRESTLING II



was unmasked by Bill Watts and turned out to be Johnny Walker. . . Watts also exposed Dale Lewis who was be being billed as Dr. Blood. . . The original Mr. Wrestling (Tim Woods) unmasked Mr. Super Wrestling, who was Tank Morgan, and revealed his own face prior to his June 1, title match with Harley Race. . . Gordon Nelson, who has been known as Mr. Wrestling in West Texas appeared in California for awhile, calling himself, Dr. X. . . Jerry Lawler's tag partner, the Scorpion was unmasked as Don Duffy. . . The Masked Executioner that Ken Patera beat in Honolulu was Hard-



MCCORD VS HANSON

boiled Haggerty. . . Bobby Hart wrestled for awhile in West Texas under the Guise of Patriot. . . The Super Infernos in Georgia were revealed as Don Smith & Doug Gilbert. . . Billy Spears appeared in Florida as Sardo the Magnificent. . . Don Jardine after wrestling in his familiar Spoiler mask in Texas and being billed as the Spoiler without a mask in New York, showed up in the Carolinas as the Destroyer. . . Even the well-read wrestling fan finds it hard to keep track of many wrestlers. Instead of dropping out of sight, some prefer to change names when entering a new territory. For instance: The Skull left Oregon and headed North to British Columbia where he won the heavyweight title and shared the tag title under the billing of the Brute. . . The young Negro wrestler called Bobby Cash in Georgia wrestled in WWWF rings as Al Nelson. . . Butcher Brannigan formerly wrestled on the WWWF circuit as Joe Nova. . . The pro wrestling in the Ozarks was Oni Wiki Wiki. . . Eddie Morrow left British Columbia and arrived in Quebec with the name Edouard Ethifier. . . Johnny Eagles came into the South as Johnny Marlin. . . A favorite of the fans in Nebraska as Stan Pulaski, he is equally well-known in the Maritime Provinces of Canada as Eric Pomeroy



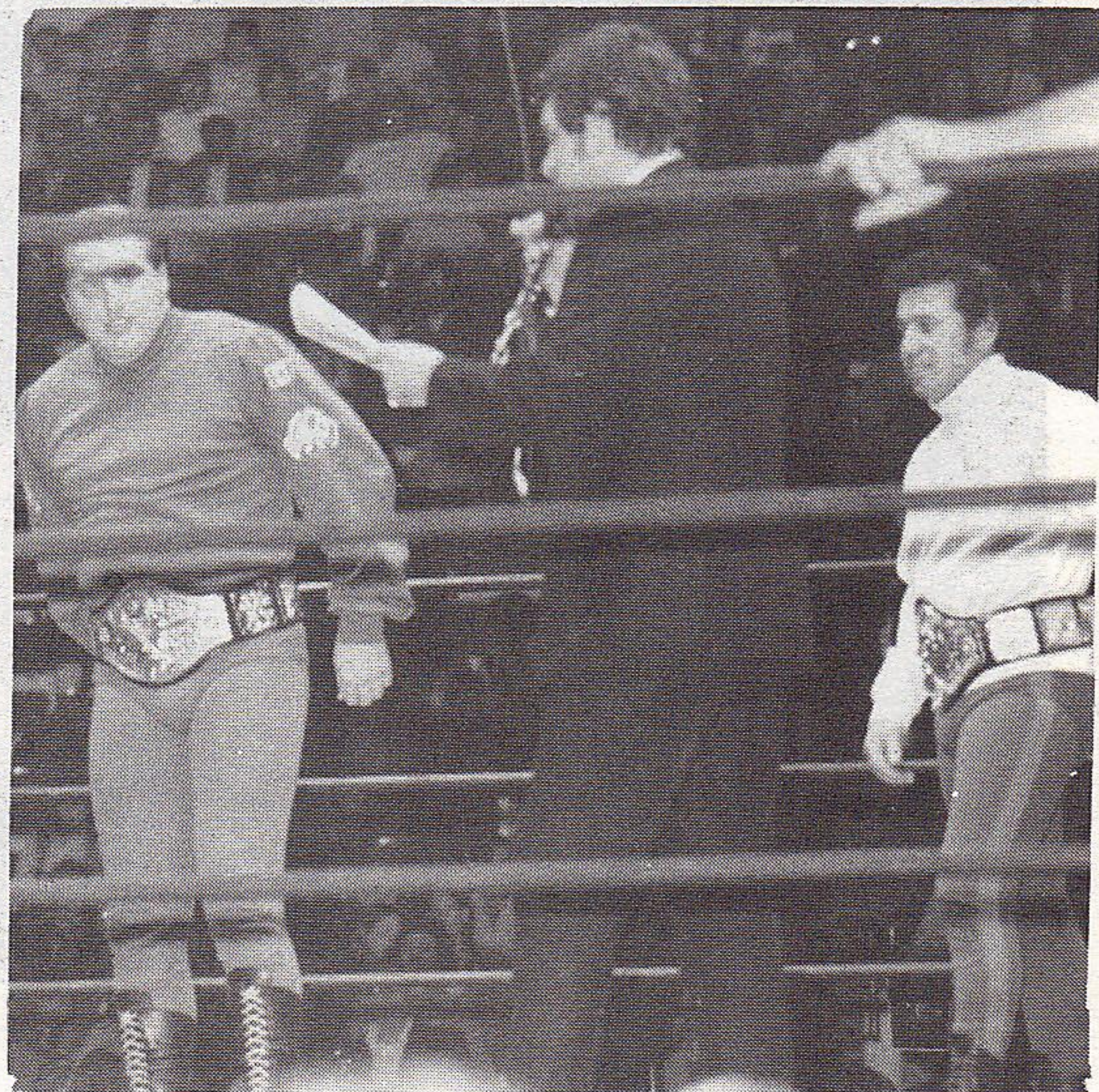
and to Southern fans as Stan Vachon, who teams with Butcher & Mad Dog Vachon. . . Dennis McCord was a popular young Southern wrestler, who changed his first name to Mike and became a villain on the East Coast. . . Sabu Singh wrestled as Manuel Cruz on the West Coast and came to the East Coast as Jose Gonzales. . . Bepo Mongol grew hair and began wrestling in Texas & Oklahoma as Nicolai Volkoff, then returned to the WWWF circuit with this new name and minus his former tag partner, Geeto Mongol. . . Bull Gregory crosses the Canadian boundary and becomes Ali Baba in Detroit. . . The Beast Man who appeared briefly in California was Hippy Mike Boyette. . . The Great Kojika is being billed as Kung Fu Lee in West Texas. . . Togo the Great is what fans in the Central States knew him as, but in Japan his name is Eigen. . . Kabooki in Detroit formerly was there under the names of Tokyo Tom and Taro Sakuro. . . Bobby & Jerry Christy have wrestled in Southern California masked as the Vigilantes and unmasked as the Peace Brothers, Joseph & Jerome. . . Scott Elmore jumped across town in Detroit from Cobo Hall where he had that name, to the Olympia, where he showed up as Cowboy Parker. . . So it oftentimes happens that the same people have different names in different areas. One AWA wrestler is known by two names - Lars Anderson (he took that name when he started out teaming with Gene Anderson) dropped his alias and began using his real name, Larry Heiniemi. His explanation was simple - as a Finn, he was tired of being mistaken for a Swede.

\* \* \* \* \*

Every year fans experience a number of surprises as their hero becomes despicable or a hated villain turns over a new leaf. Villains get tired of fan abuse and decide to join with the fans rather than be against them. On the other hand, heroes get tired of taking a beating and begin fighting fire-with-fire, or change their personality to earn more money or to obtain a title match. 1973 saw an abnormal number of personality changes. . . Cowboy Frankie Laine traded his sleeper hold and bulldog headlock for a loaded



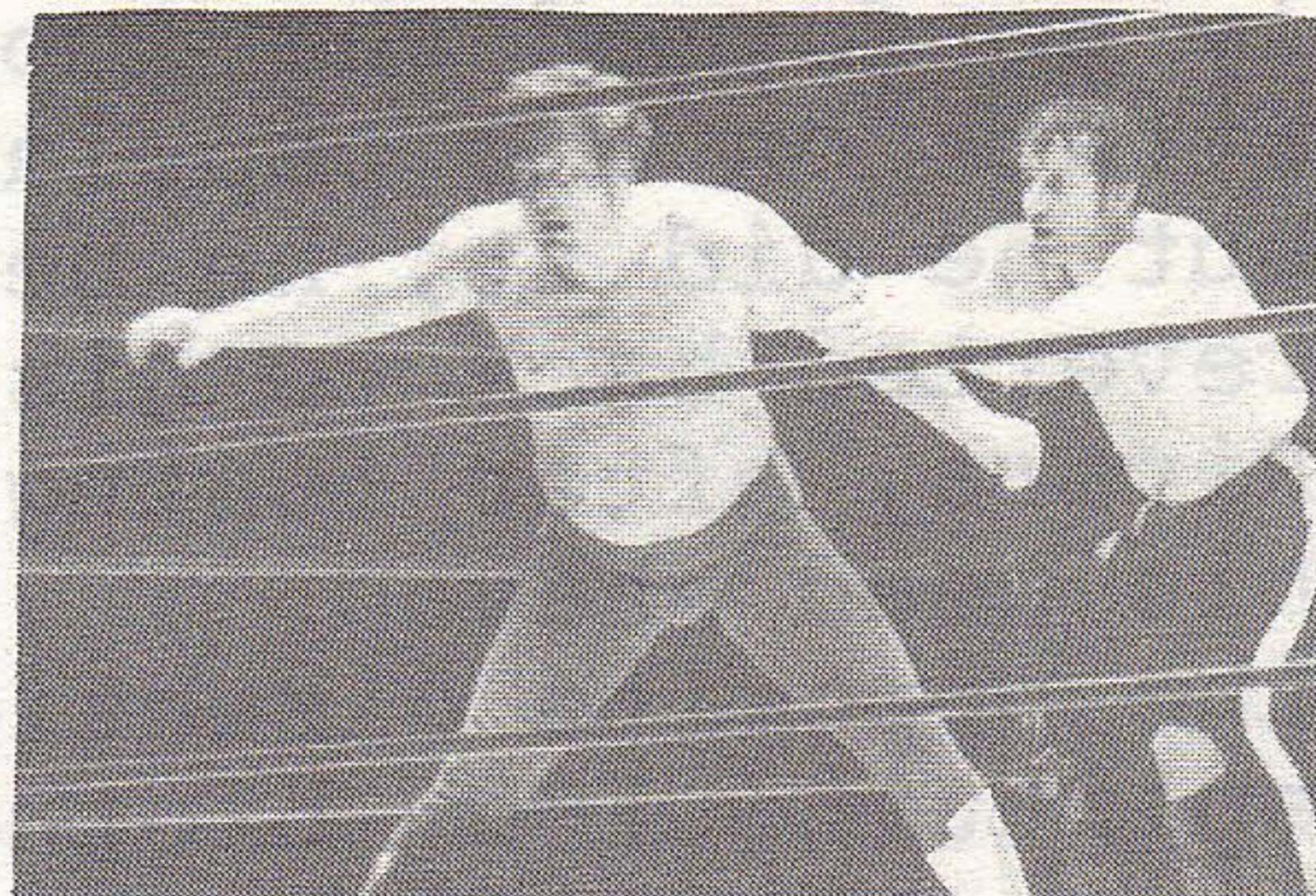
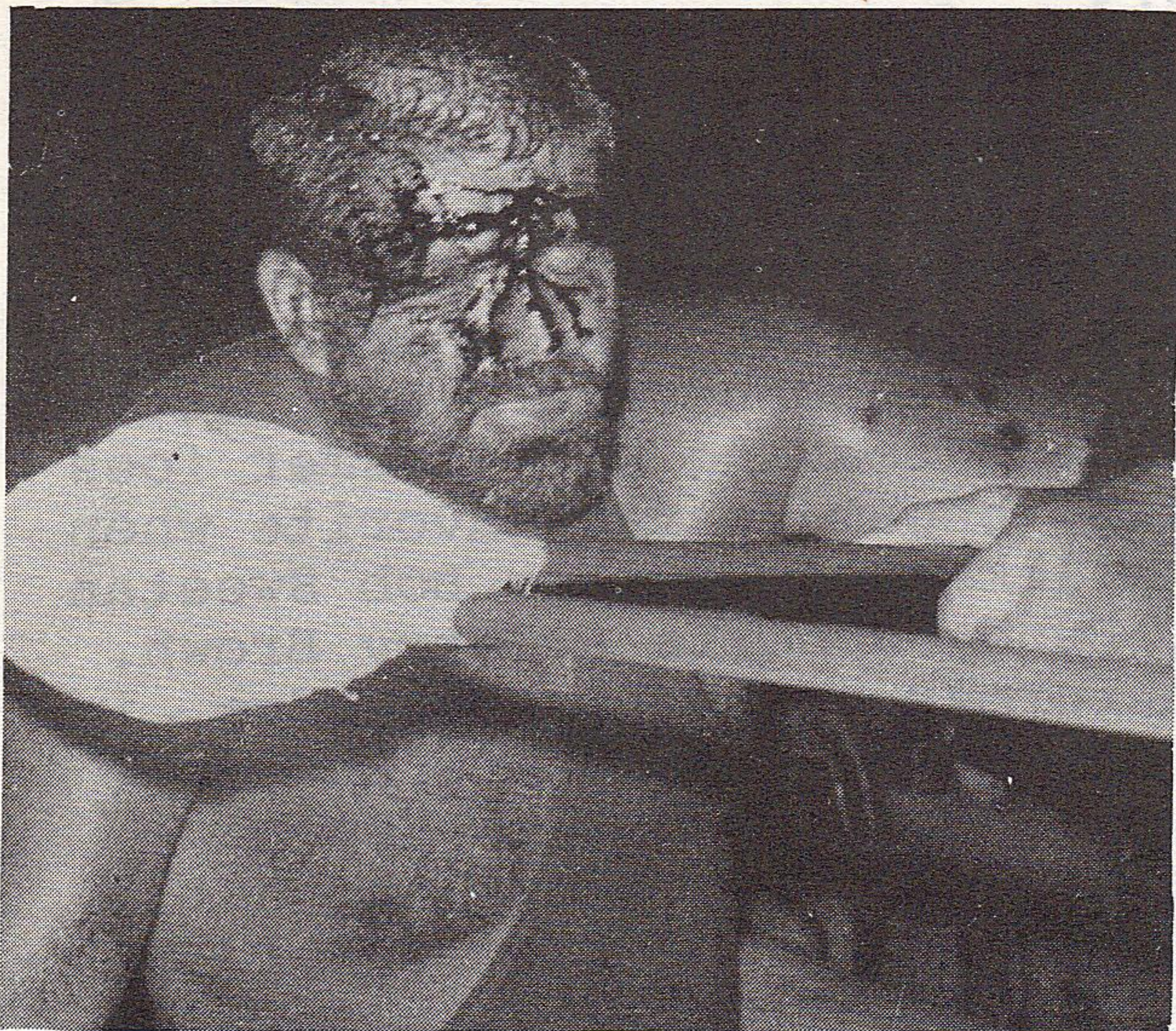
boot and a bullwhip. . . The talented and scientific English stars, Les Thornton and Lord Alfred Hayes began resorting to villainy. . . John Tolos had seemingly performed the impossible after he made a vicious attack on the popular Fred Blassie in Los Angeles, but he did it, he became a hero. But this summer he reverted back to his old ways, attacking Victor Rivera, after losing a match that resulted in having his head shaved. . . There were also some changes in the opposite direction: Don Greene became a hero after splitting from brother Al and teaming with former foes . . . Dr. X (in the Ozarks) became a fan favorite when he began feuding with the likes of Bruiser Bob Sweetan Jerry Miller, Rip Tyler, Buddy Roberts & Jerry Brown. Dr. X even combined with former enemy, Danny Hodge, in tag team matches. . . Dick Murdoch and Dusty Rhodes had a parting of the ways, and Murdoch then became quite popular in West Texas following a falling out with Ciclon Negro. He jumped into the ring to aid Mil Mascaras & El Santo who were the victims of a sneak attack after beating Negro & Buck Robley. Dick's feud in a brutal series of matches with Ciclon and teaming with the extremely popular Ricky Romero, changed his image completely. . . The most shocking personality change of 1973 occurred to Cowboy Bill Watts, always considered one of America's most popular and successful stars. Watts changed his base of operation from Oklahoma to Georgia, and the weeks seemed to take their toll on Bill's popularity. What apparently bothered Bill was the enormous popularity of Jack Brisco and Mr. Wrestling I & II. Combine this with a publicized bounty on masked wrestlers, explain the increasing rugged style Watts was displaying. The climax came in Atlanta on May 25, when Watts & fellow Oklahoman, Jack Brisco met



THE STOMPER-BEN JUSTICE



JOHN QUINN



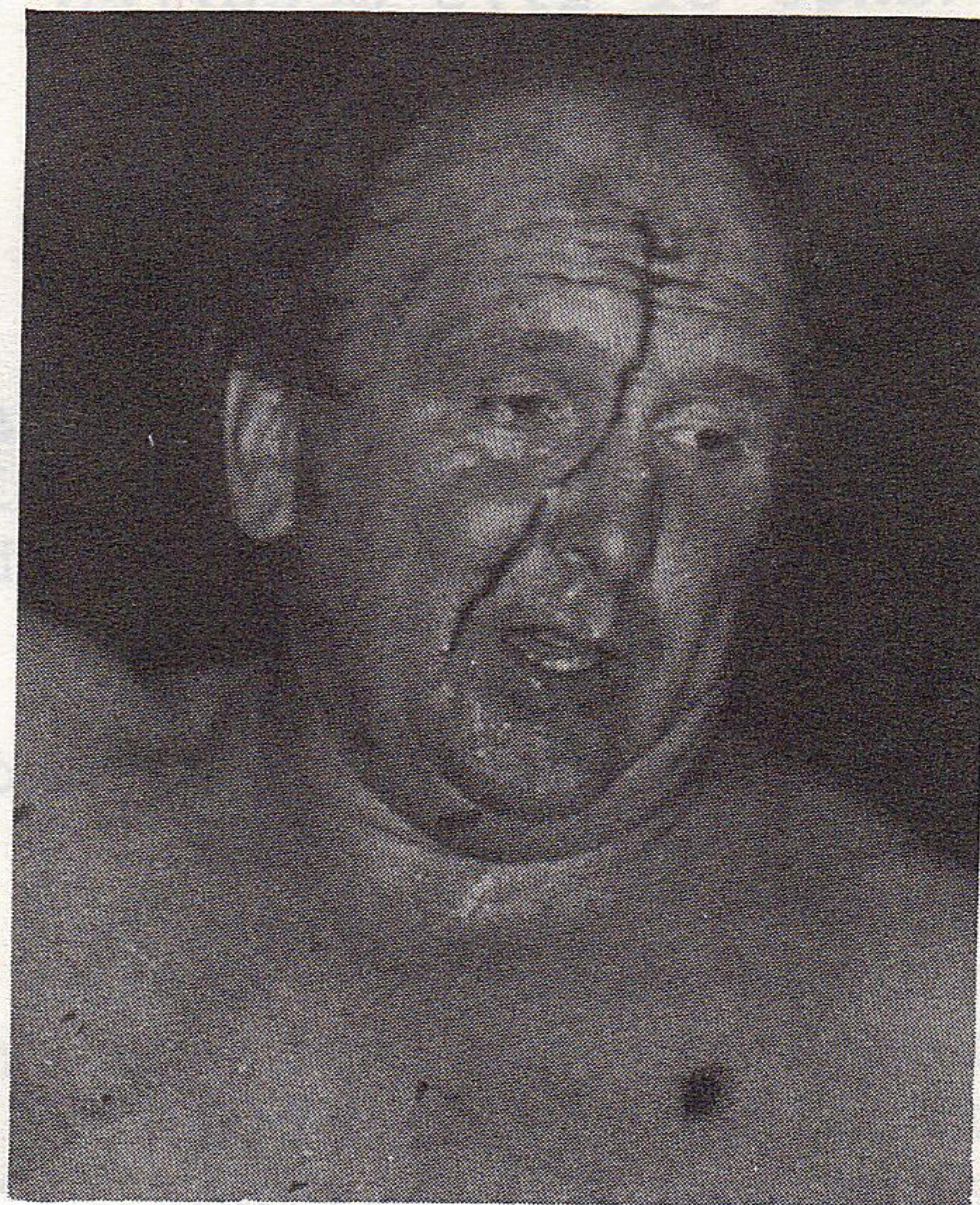
SOMETIMES

THEY

BLEED!

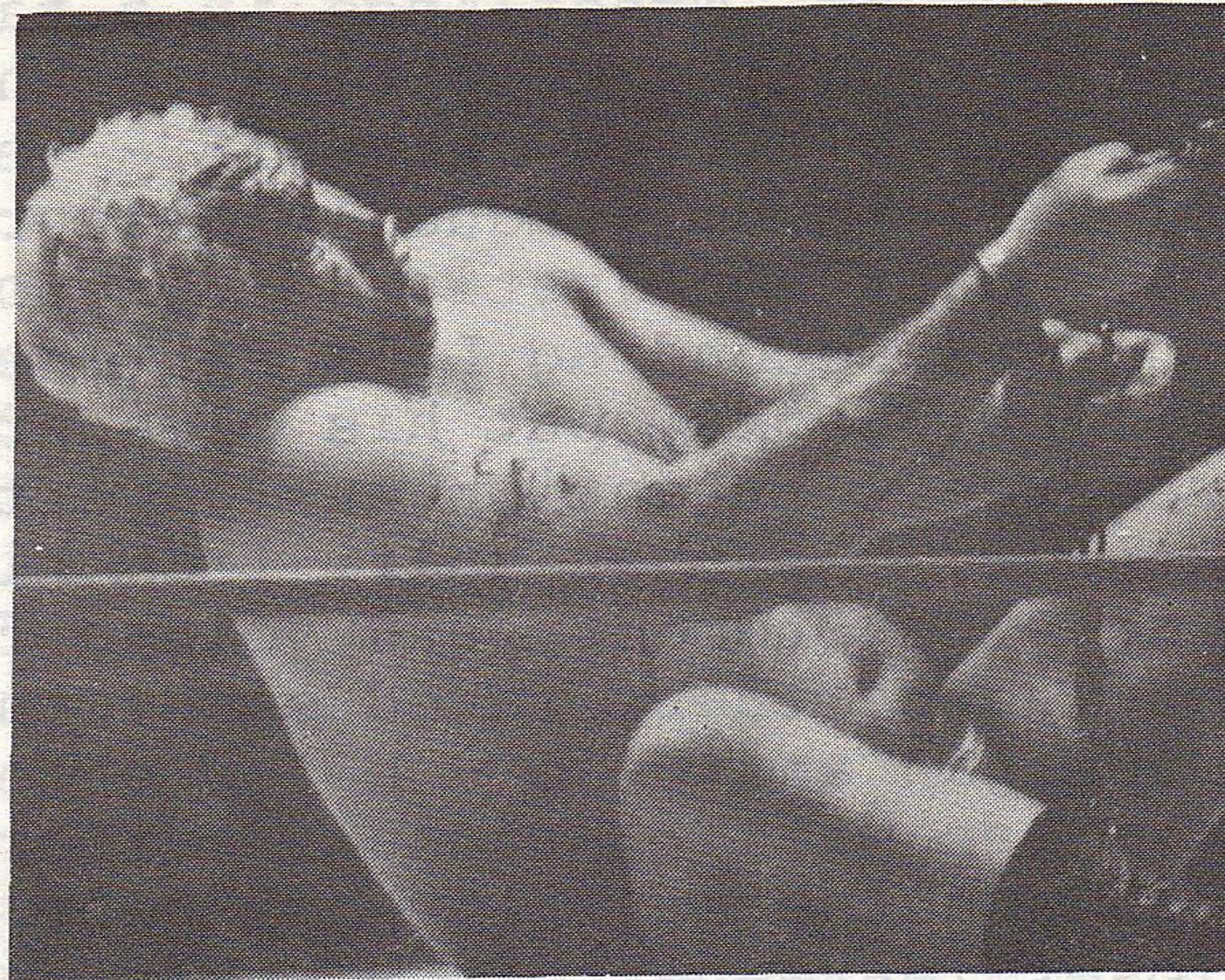
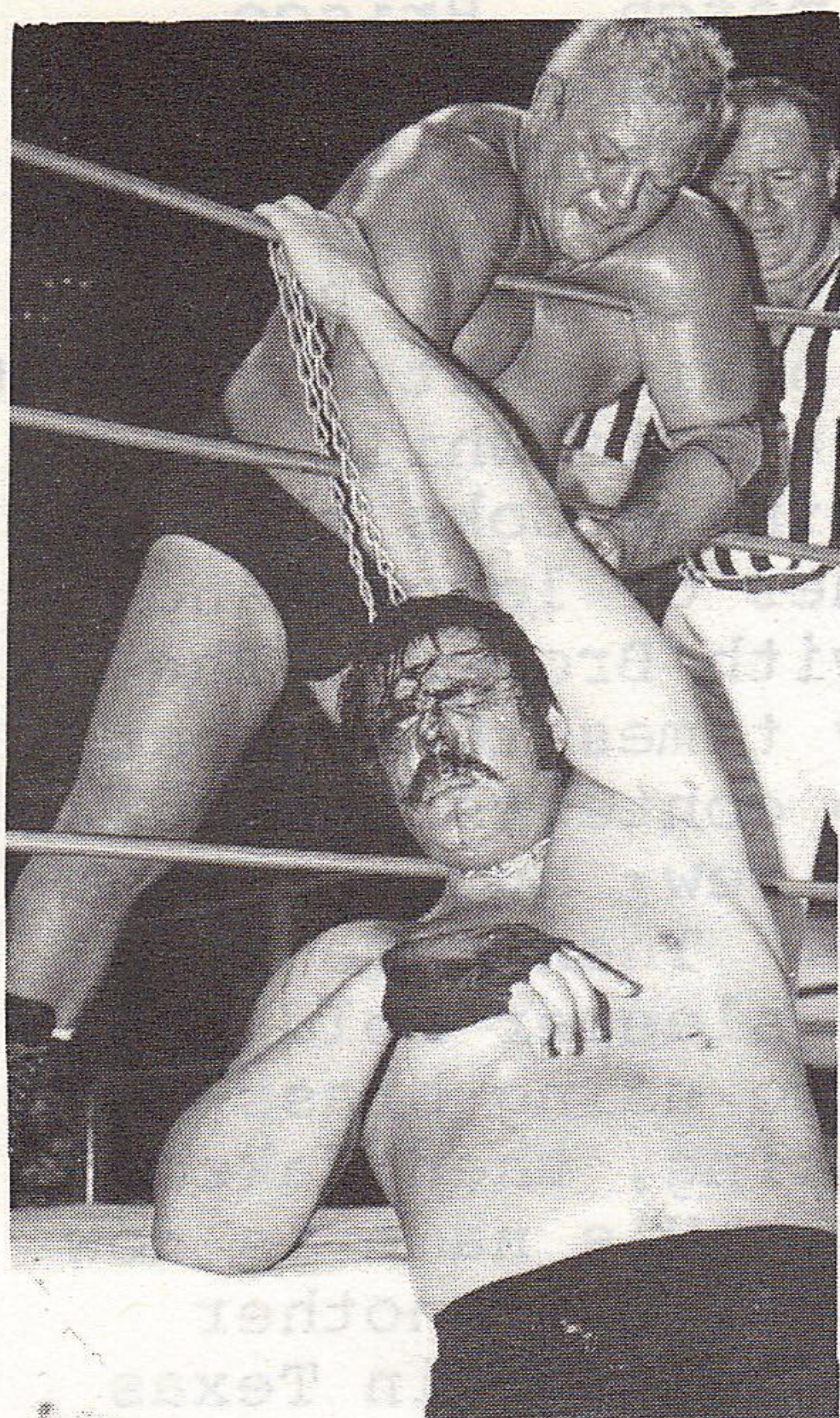


GARY HART



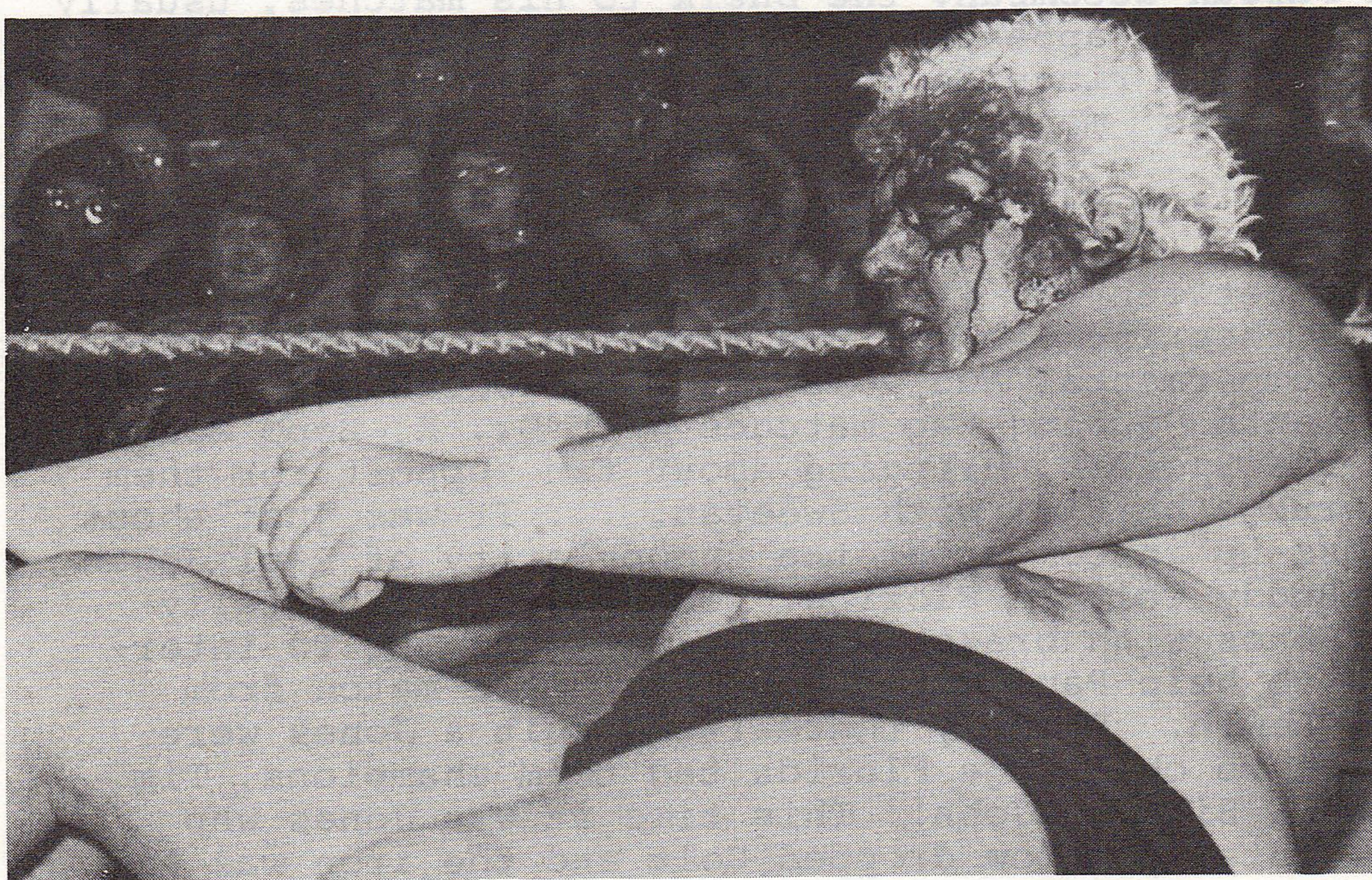
KILLER KARL KOX





HARLEY RACE IN CHAIN BOUT

DICK THE BRUISER IN A CHAIN MATCH WITH MULLIGAN



DUSTY RHODES - after a match with Bruiser



the two Mr. Wrestlings in a tag team match. Brisco resented Watts resorting to the use of brassknuckles, and was clobbered himself - -enter Bill Watts, Georgia's #1 villain. . . Equally disturbing was the change that came over Ben Justice. For no apparent reason, Ben who was seconding Luis Martinez in a boxing match against Killer Brooks, put his sleeper hold on Luis while the referee's attention was diverted, making Brooks the winner. He then split from his partner of long-standing, the Stomper, and joined forces with Brooks. The ex-tag partners faced each other many times throughout Michigan and Ohio - a few ended in no contests including a strap match; Brooks interfered in a few; but the Stomper won the majority of their battles. Then came a loser-leave-Detroit bout in which the sleeper hold must decide the winner. Justice resorted to using brassknuckles when the referee was not looking, then faked the application of the sleeper to win. His name is now a complete contradiction of his actions. . . Another stunning break-up involved John and Don Fargo in Texas . . . The Fabulous Kangaroos fired manager, George Cannon, and replaced him by hiring Sir Clements, who formerly managed Al & Don Greene. . . Rarely does Abdullah Farouk accompany the Sheik to his matches, usually when he does appear it is in Toronto. He seems to be replaced at ringside for the most part by Eddie Creatchman, Brooks' manager.

\* \* \* \* \*

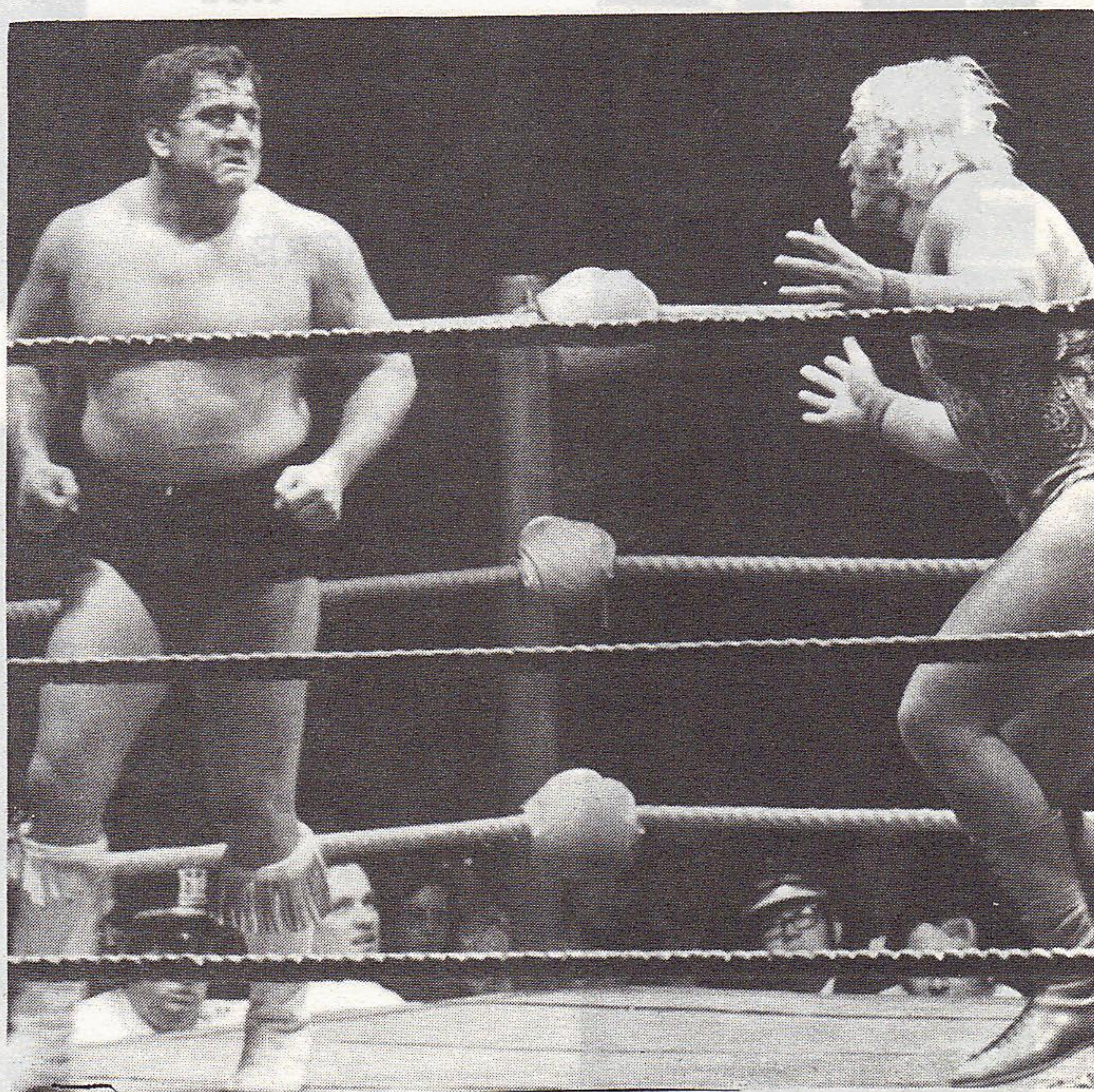
Feuds between two villains often cause the fans to begin cheering one man and thinking of him as a hero. . . Tempermental and volatile Bob Sweetan got into arguments during tag matches with Dr. X, Bepo Mongol, and the Spoiler, bringing about fan support for them in grudge battles with Sweetan. . . It was just about a toss-up in comparing the unpopularity of Paul Jones and Buddy Colt in Florida. Then Colt accidentally hit Jones with brassknuckles, while trying to interfere to help Paul win a Southern title match from Mark Lewin. Shortly thereafter, Colt & Jones were paired to challenge Florida tag team champions, Tim Woods & Big Bad John. This time it was Jones who accidentally elbow dropped Colt and the iron was in



the fire. By teaming Jones with the Sunshine state's most popular wrestlers, and matching him against Florida's most hated - the promoters had created a new hero. . . Despite being admired by fans in British Columbia for his rugged style and success, John Quinn could only be considered a villain. However after getting embroiled in a bloody feud with his former tag team partner, Bulldog Brown, and signed to matches with Gene Kiniski and the Brute, he too, became a new man in the eyes of his public - a hero!

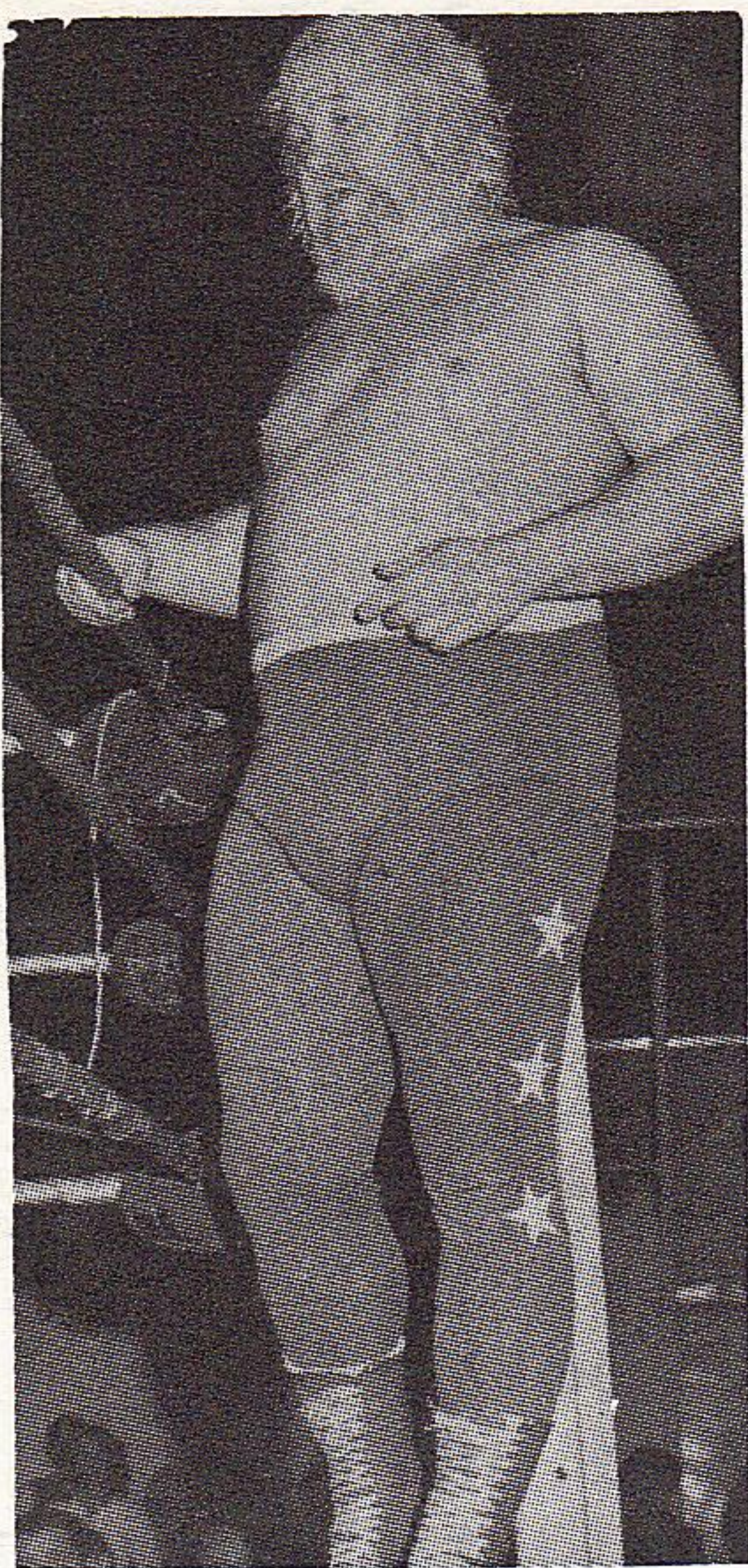
### 1973's TOP FEUDS

Big and boastful Bill Graham entered the Midwest, referring to himself as the "Superstar" and immediately made many enemies - none more intense than Wahoo McDaniel. It started when Graham slaughtered and humiliated Billy Red Cloud. Wahoo wanted revenge and tried to show up Graham at arm-wrestling, which he claimed he never lost at. With McDaniel winning, Graham upset the table and slammed it down on Wahoo's head, opening a bloody gash. As a result they have been matched many times on the AWA circuit, always creating excitement, with many of the battles degenerating into blood baths -- especially when Graham is signed to face McDaniel in an Indian Strap Match. . . It was natural that the powerful and cocky Graham would clash with the young Olympic weightlifter-turned wrestler, Ken Patera. Patera became a threat to the muscular claimant to the arm-wrestling championship and was so resented. Whenever given the opportunity to compete, the

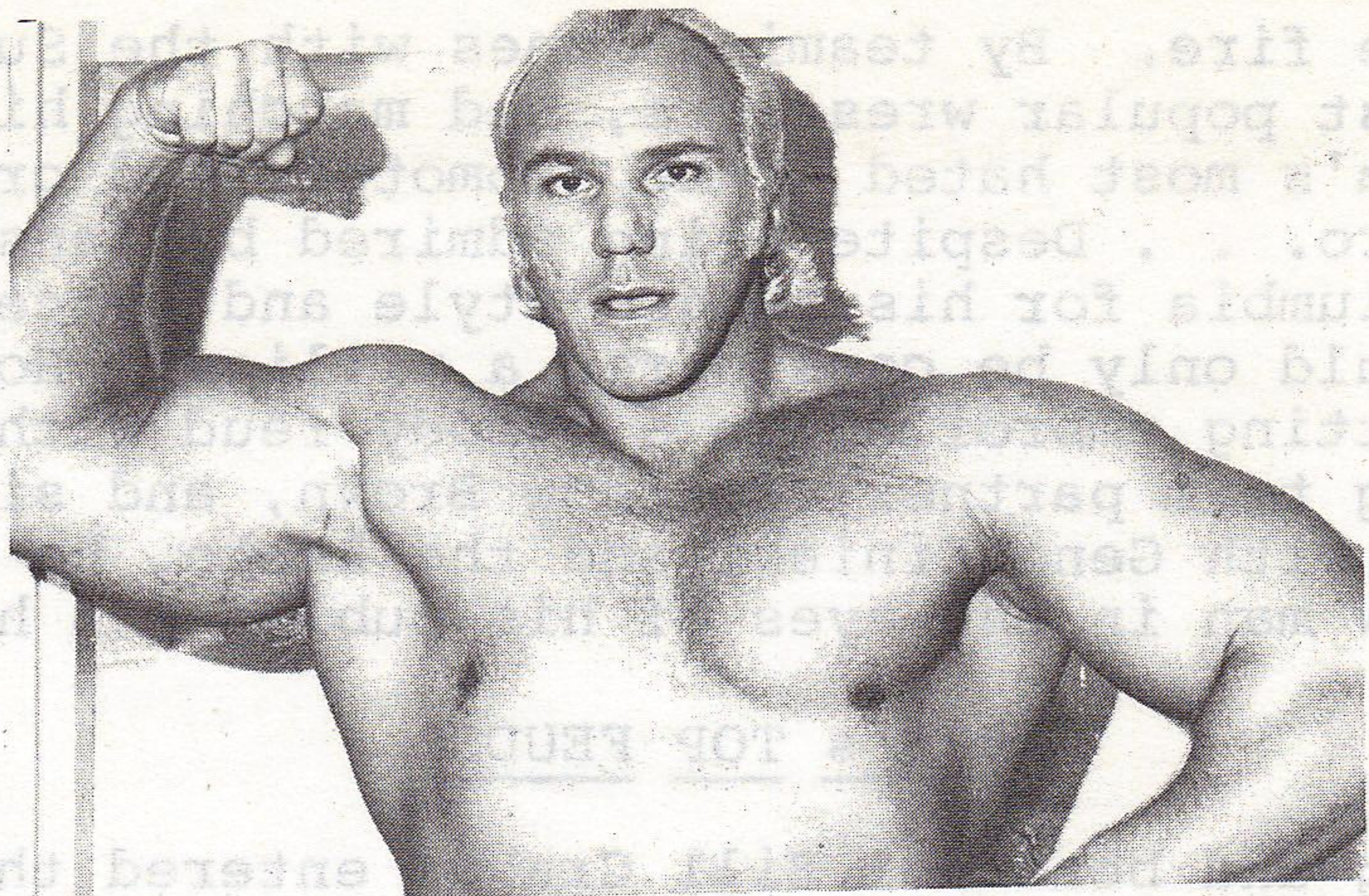


MCDANIEL VS GRAHAM

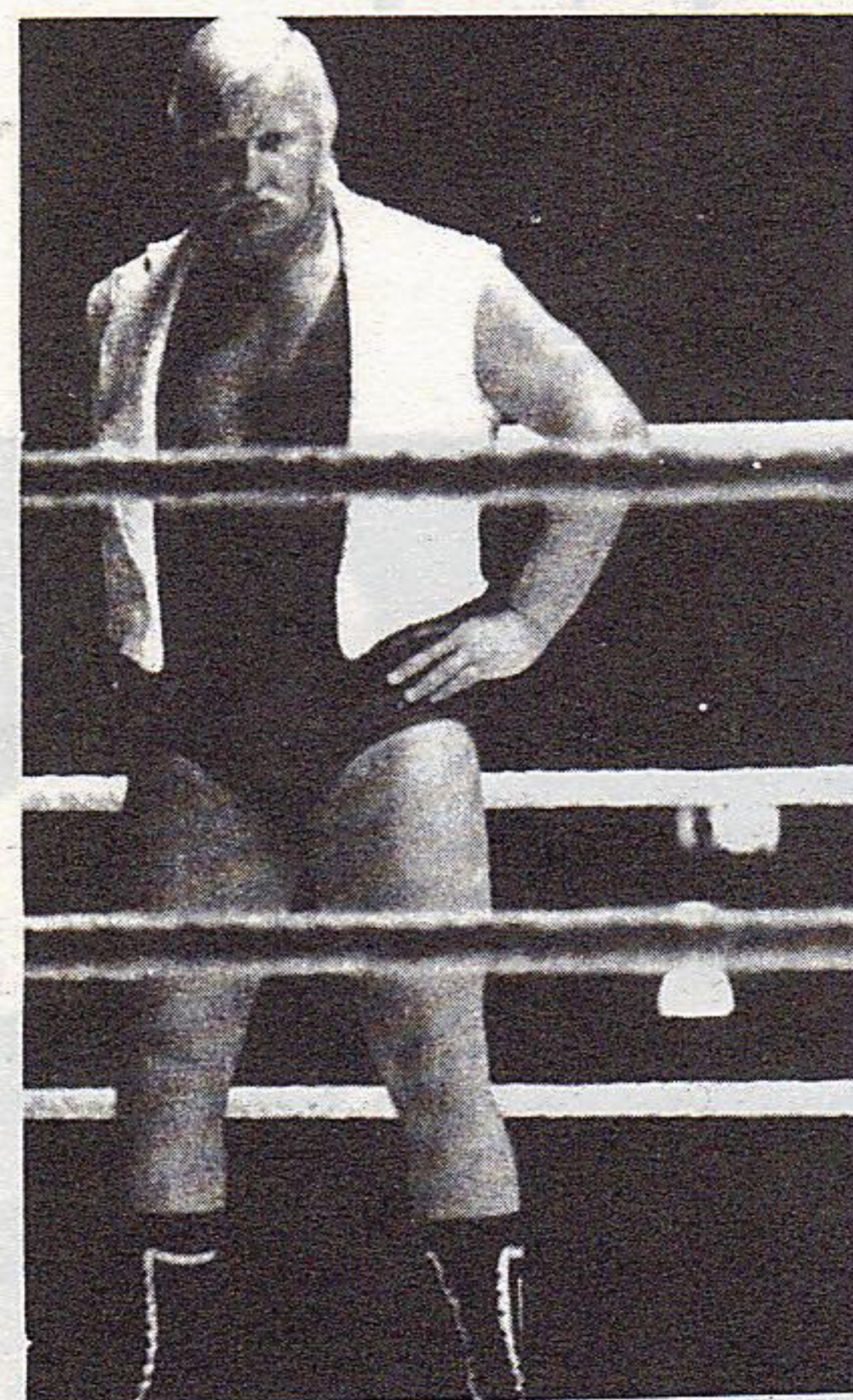




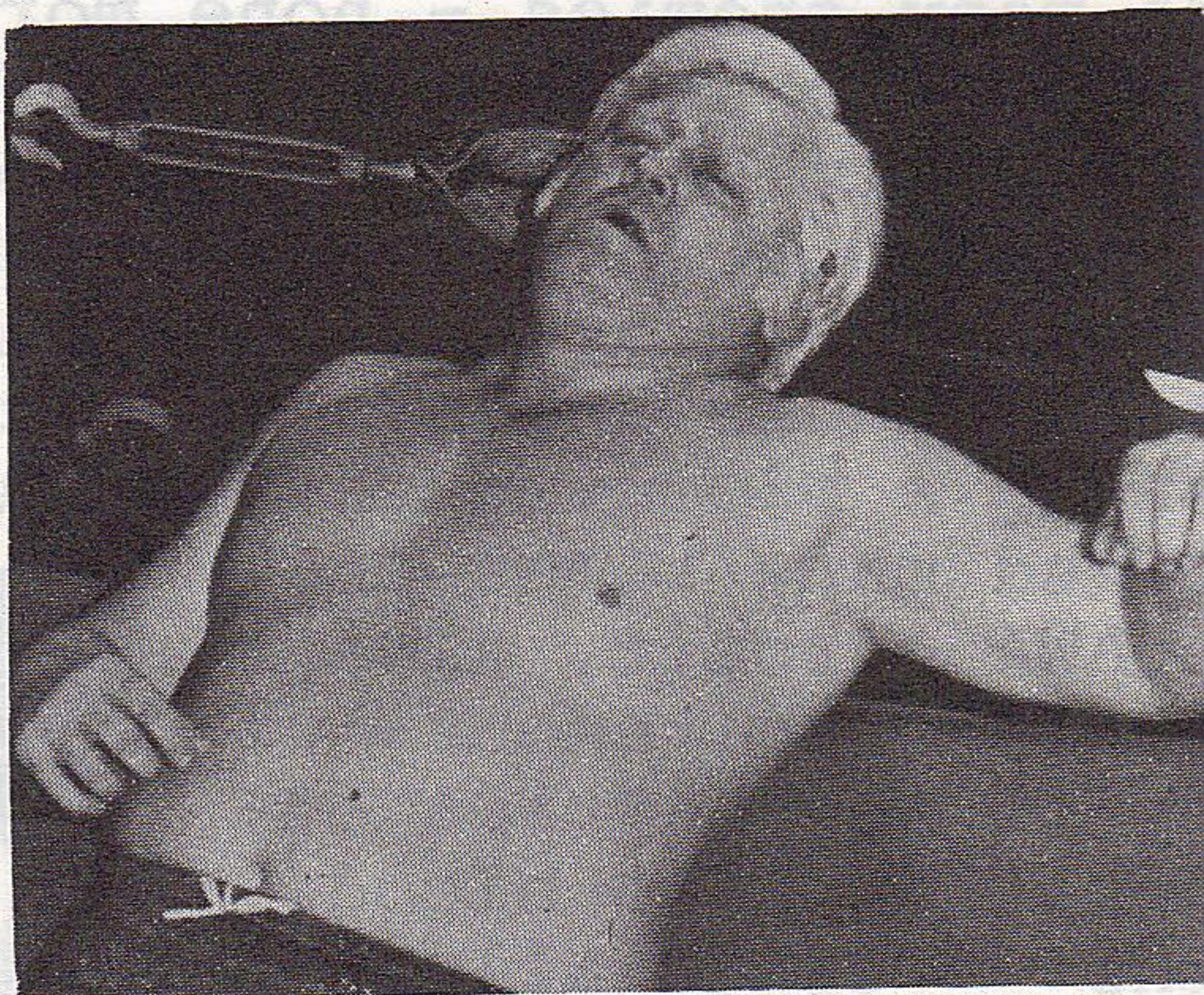
SUPERSTAR  
GRAHAM



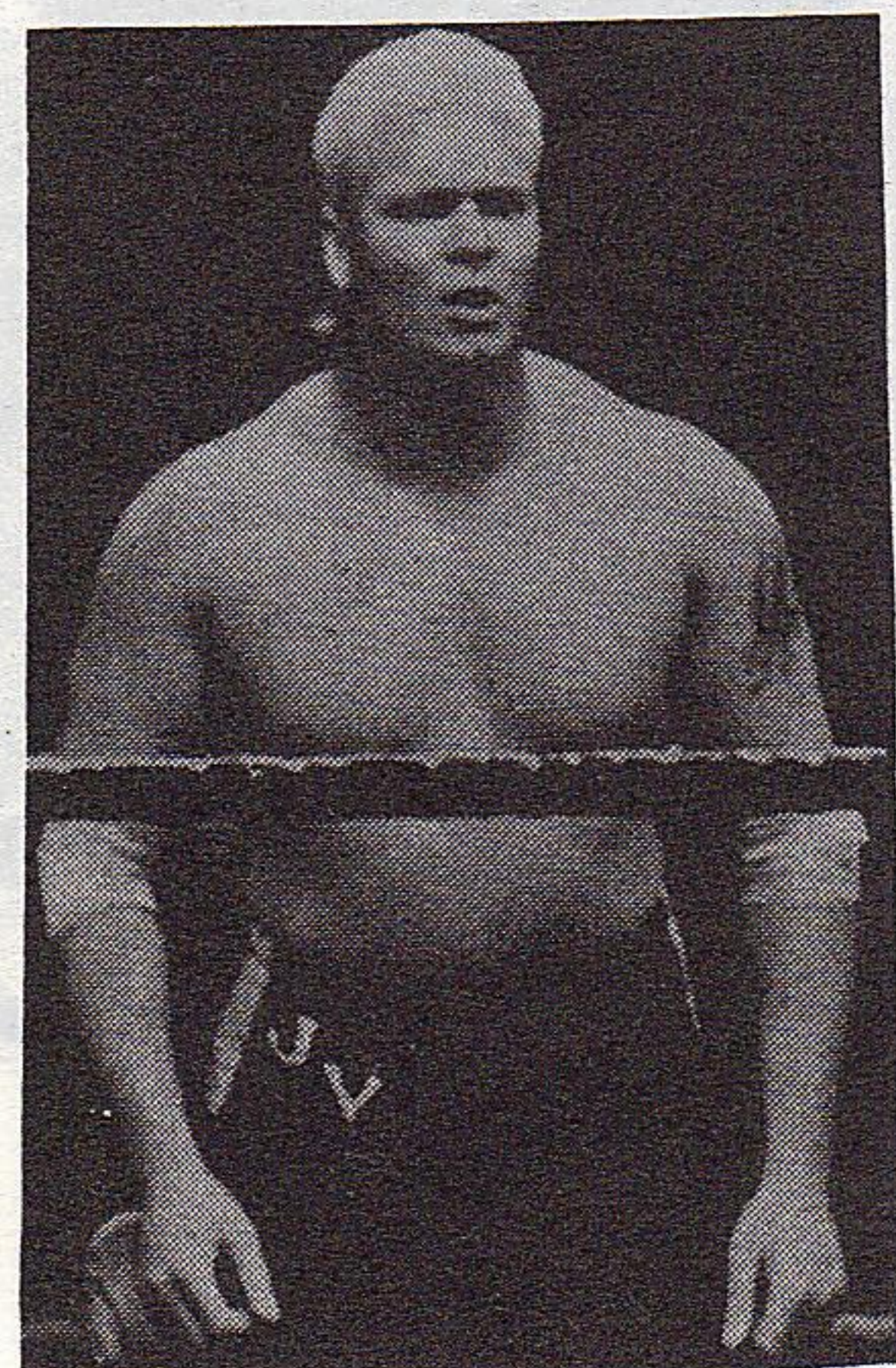
RIP  
HAWK



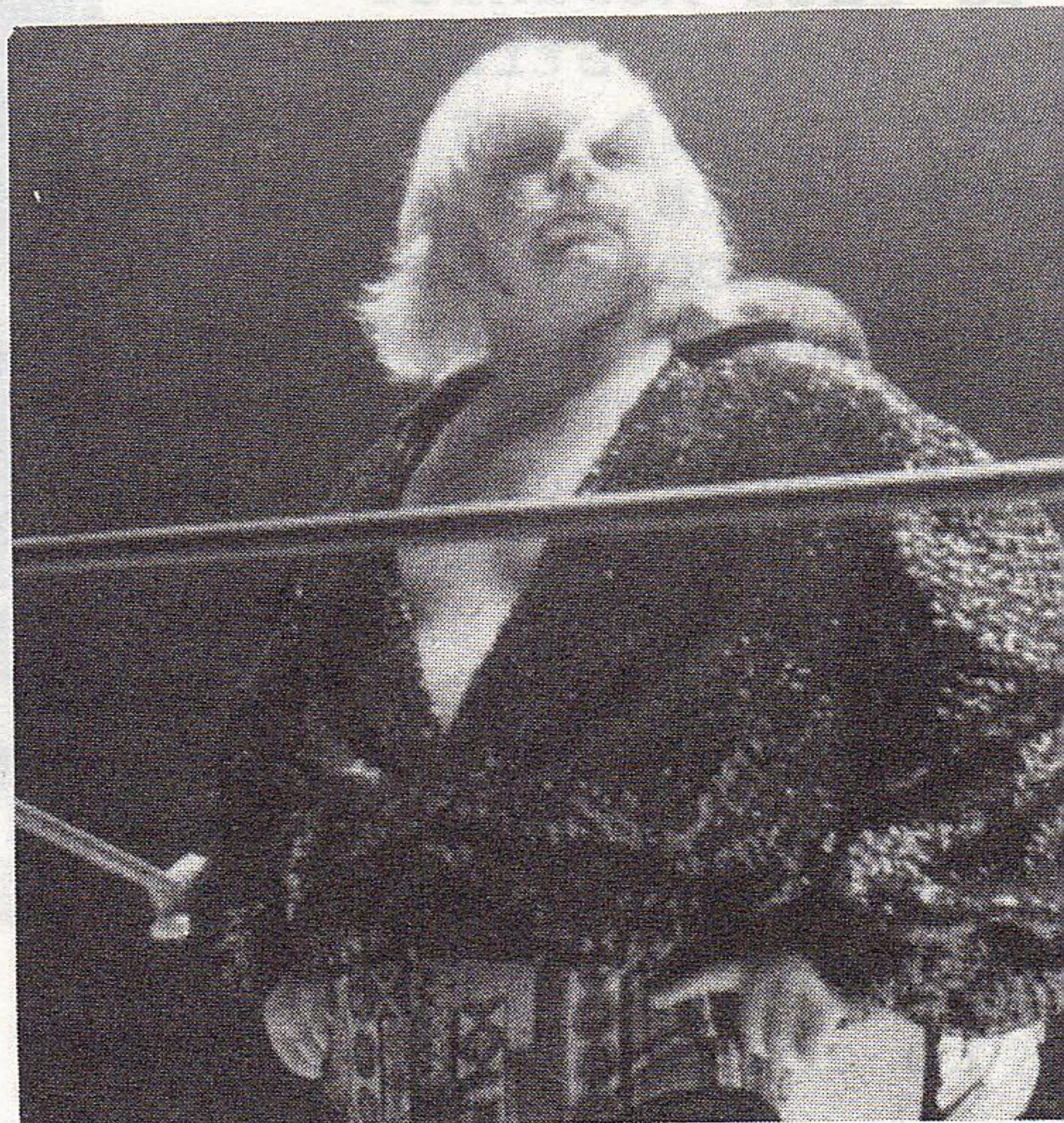
LONNIE  
MAYNE



BOBBY  
SHANE



JIMMY  
VALIANT



ROGER  
KIRBY

DO BLONDES  
HAVE MORE  
ENEMIES?



Superstar resorted to cheating. Then Graham challenged Patera to his specialty, weight-lifting, and when it was obvious he could not win, rushed up to him as he held the barbells over his head and knocked him to the mat. These two big men continue to try and out-do the other. . . Ask Johnny Valentine who he dislikes the most in the sport of pro-wrestling and he will automatically reply the Sheik, as it was the Wild Arab who threw his dreaded fire into the face of Valentine in defense of Johnny's barrage of brainbusters. Not content to see Valentine withering on the mat in pain the Sheik again threw fire into Johnny's face. This match took place on Feb. 10 and it was not until May 5, that Valentine could return to Detroit's Cobo Hall for a rematch. Big John was uncontrollable, slaughtering the Sheik, and then clobbering the referee who was trying to bring him under control. For that he was disqualified, but the Sheik was carried out. May 19, they were rematched, with the Sheik entering the ring first and trying to prevent Valentine from entering. When the enraged Valentine did get in, he gave the Sheik another good beating, causing the Sheik to hit the ref in desperation, to get disqualified to save his U.S. belt. Another bout, May 26, inside a cage settled nothing as both climbed out at the same time. They have met many times in Detroit and other cities since, in tag team and singles match, always wild encounters. Twice Valentine has taken the U.S. title from the Sheik and each time he has regained it. . . The Sheik enjoyed the friendship and partnership of the equally wild Pampero Firpo, but by the end of 1973 a bitter feud has erupted between them. The Sheik accidentally hit Firpo with brassknuckles while he refereed a match with Brazil, then hard feelings continued during a few more tag matches until the break became final. Firpo having turned over a new leaf, disgusted with the tactics of the Syrian wildman. . . The tag partnership between Karl von Krupp and Ciclon Negro ended almost before it had started in West Texas, precipitating hard feelings hard feelings and an exciting series of bouts, mostly won by Ciclon, whose active participation also cost von Krupp a lumberjack match to Ricky Romero. . . It annoyed Gary Hart that a second manager, Bronco Lubich was also in Texas. That resentment led to Hart



FABULOUS  
KANGAROOS

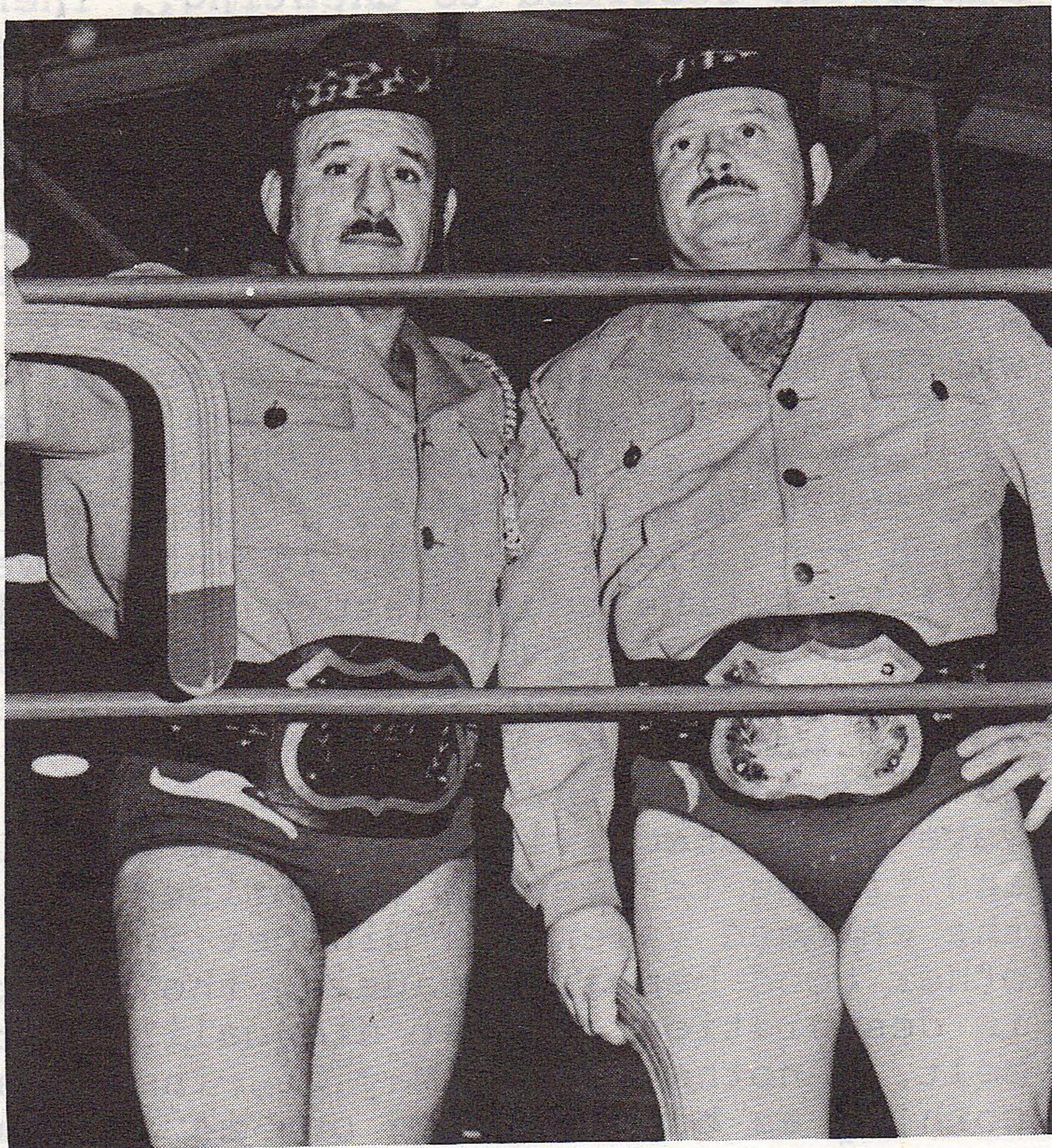
THE LOVE BROS.



REGINALD & HARTFORD

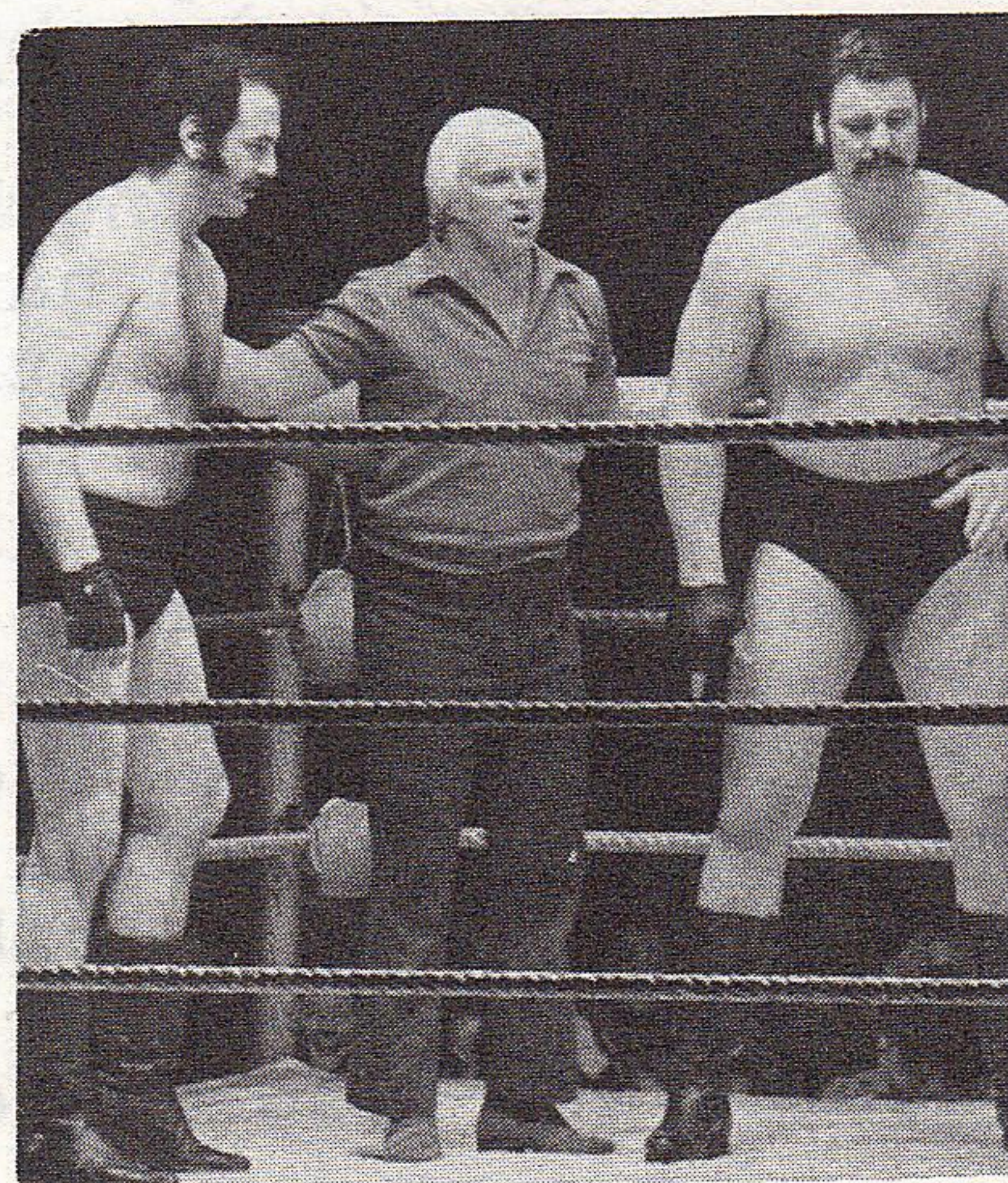


THE INTERNS



AL COSTELLO & DON KENT

HEENAN WITH BLACKJACKS



LANZA & MULLIGAN



breaking in on Lubich's tv interview and being hooked around the neck by Bronco's cane, opening up a bitter feud. Hart's wrestler, the Missouri Mauler, held the American Championship, and Gary refused to allow him to face Lubich's man, Bobby Duncum. In retaliation, Lubich cost the Mauler and Hart's other wrestler, Brute Bernard several matches, tripping them with his cane or even tossing it to their opponent. Bronco also was responsible for calling in Hart's ex-friend and former wrestler, Don "The Spoiler" Jardine and teamed him up with Duncum for several bouts against Bernard & The Missouri Mauler. . . Ivan Putski and Ernie Ladd engaged in a furious feud in Texas. One bout saw Ladd use his taped thumb to open up a cut on Ivan's forehead, and the Polish strongman went wild, getting disqualified, when he refused to calm down and heed the ref. When the two were rematched in a 2-3 fall match, all 3 falls ended in disqualification. Again Ivan was bleeding and wild, so Ladd stopped him the only way he could - by tossing him over the top rope. Putski accidentally hit the ref to get disqualified in the 2nd fall; and Ladd, who was taking quite a beating in the 3rd fall, took the easy way out by deliberately hitting the referee. . . In Northern California the #1 feud of 1973 involved Pat Patterson and the Great Mephisto. Mephisto, using his "loaded boot" won the U.S. title from Patterson and held onto it thru several controversial rematches, including a couple bouts in which Mephisto hit the referee to get himself disqualified. Mephisto and his tag partner, "Crazy" Luke Graham were a serious threat to take the U.S. tag team title from Patterson and Rocky Johnson, but the champions were able to turn back each bid. On Apr. 19, Pat attacked Mephisto at the Sacramento tv studio as he was wrestling Manuel Cruz. Patterson slammed Mephisto into the table, gave him an atomic drop, then unlaced and pulled off the loaded boot. When Patterson received another title rematch, Apr. 28, in San Francisco, he was wearing Mephisto's boot and eventually won the bout and his title back by kicking Mephisto in the head as he tried to pull the loaded boot off. . . Few wrestlers dare to wrestle Dick the Bruiser. When manager Bobby Heenan finds a man with the rare combination of courage & ruggedness to attempt this challenge



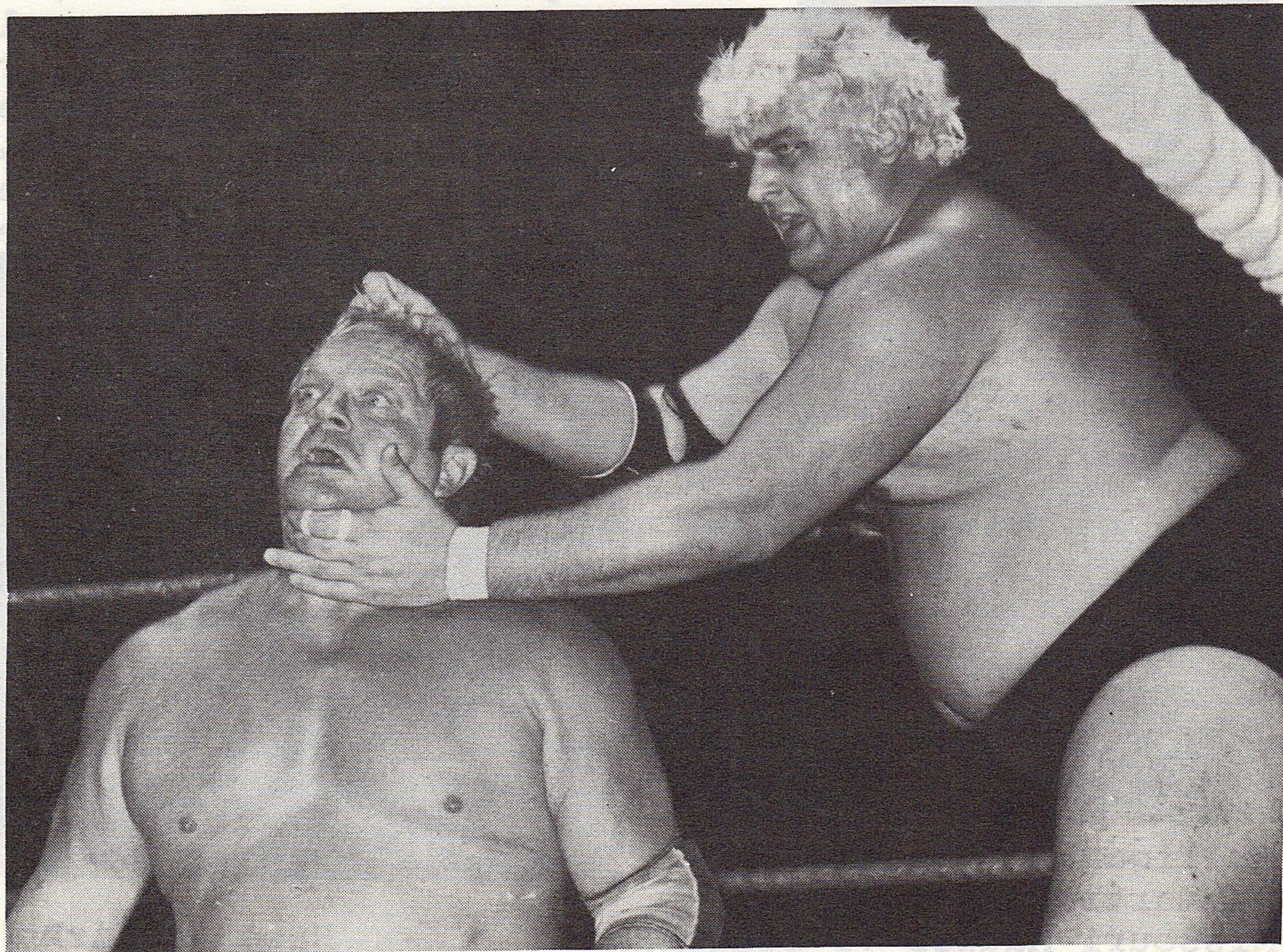
he is ecstatic. It has been Heenan's goal for several years to destroy the Bruiser and he has had his blood spilled & brains scrambled countless times in this vain attempt. First he brought in one BlackJack (Lanza then a second one (Mulligan). He combined forces with Baron von Raschke, signed up Ernie Ladd, and before the year was ended, added a fifth wrestler to his stable, Jimmy Valiant. The BlackJacks left the Midwest after Bruiser & Crusher won their WWA tag title. Von Raschke & Ladd were teamed together and with both Heenan & Valiant at ringside, distracting & interfering with Bruiser & Crusher, Raschke & Ladd won the title. . . Bobby Heenan was handcuffed at ringside when Bruiser teamed with Wilbur Snyder to challenge for the title. Snyder injured his knee in the 2nd fall, causing Bruiser to do most of the wrestling in the deciding fall and despite the odds he was on his way to victory when Valiant appeared at ringside and managed to get the key to the handcuffs that were restraining Bobby and unlocked him. The four of them then jumped Bruiser, put the handcuffs on him and gave him a good beating, that earned their disqualification. Bruiser had the last laugh in 1973, bringing in Bruno Sammartino as a partner, and this super team defeated Ladd & the Baron to win the WWA tag championship. Meanwhile Bobby Heenan schemes to fulfill his goal in 1974.

#### IMPORTANT & EXCITING MATCHES OF 1973

Battle Royals consistantly rate among the most popular and thrilling main events. The most famous and prestigious is the one held annually in January (12th) in Los Angeles. Victor Rivera eliminated Ciclon Negro to emerge victorious from the 22-man field. Other prominent stars who participated included: Fred Blassie, the Destroyer, Kinji Shibuya, Black Gordman, Goliath, John Tolos, Paul DeMarco, Bobo Brazil, Earl Maynard, Rocky Johnson, Rip Collins, Frankie Laine, & Lars Anderson. . . Jan. 27, The Great Mephisto won San Francis battle royal over 17 opponents. . . Ernie Ladd won a 27 man battle royal, outlasting Assassin #2, July 4 in Savannah, Ga. . . The largest & most unique battle royal brought to our attention occurred in Birmingham. Not only were there 31 participants, but 2 rings and

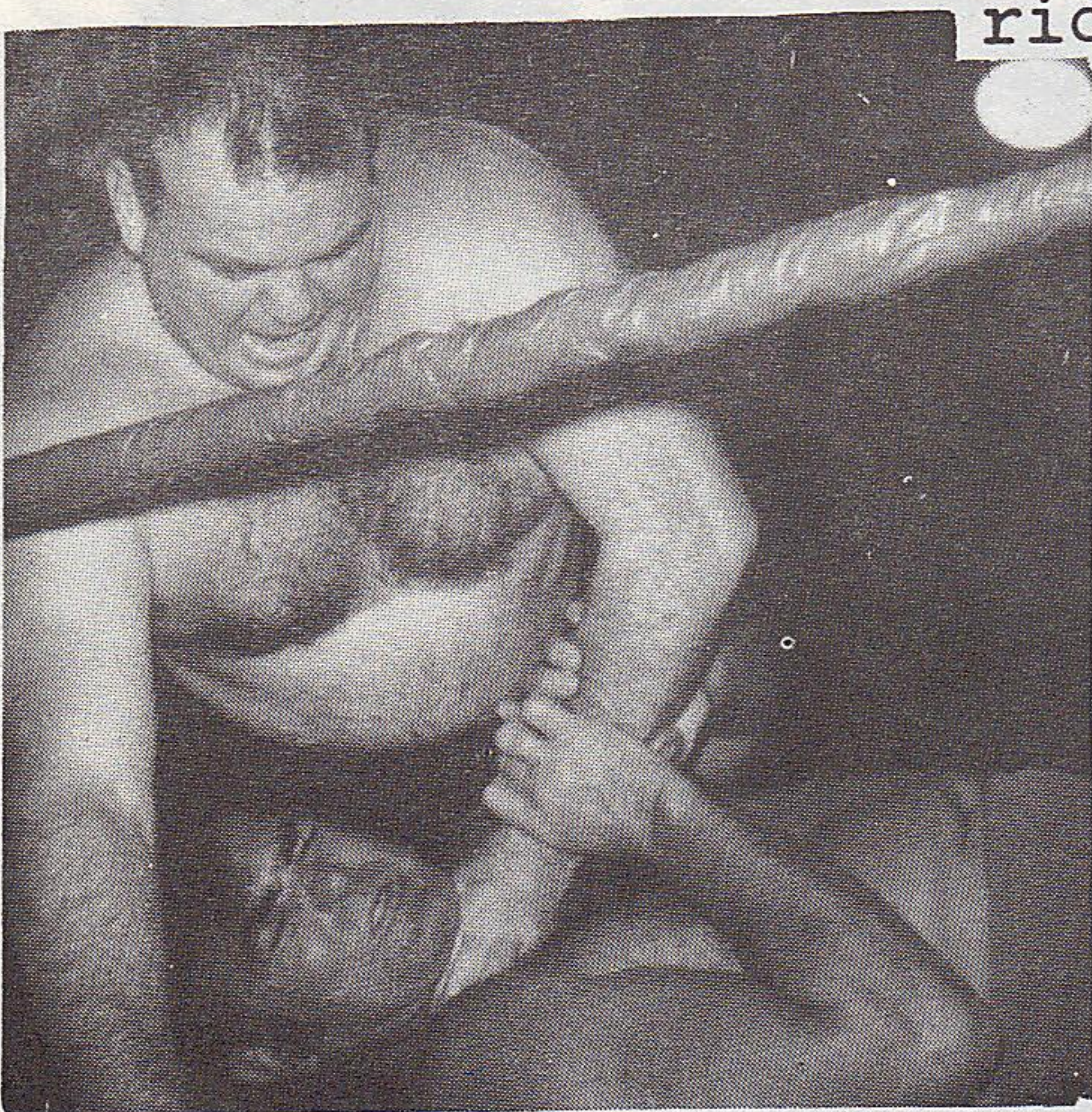
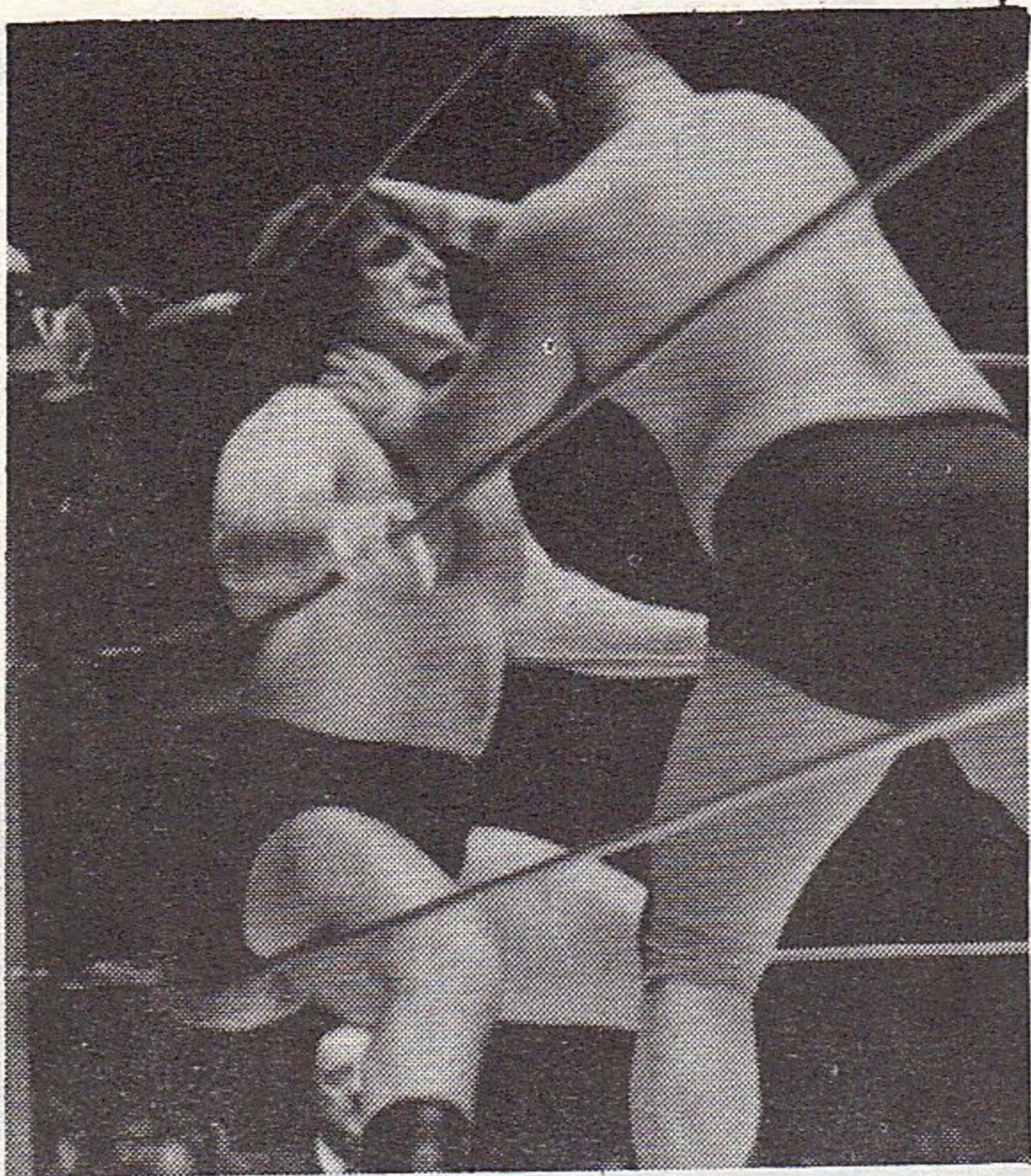
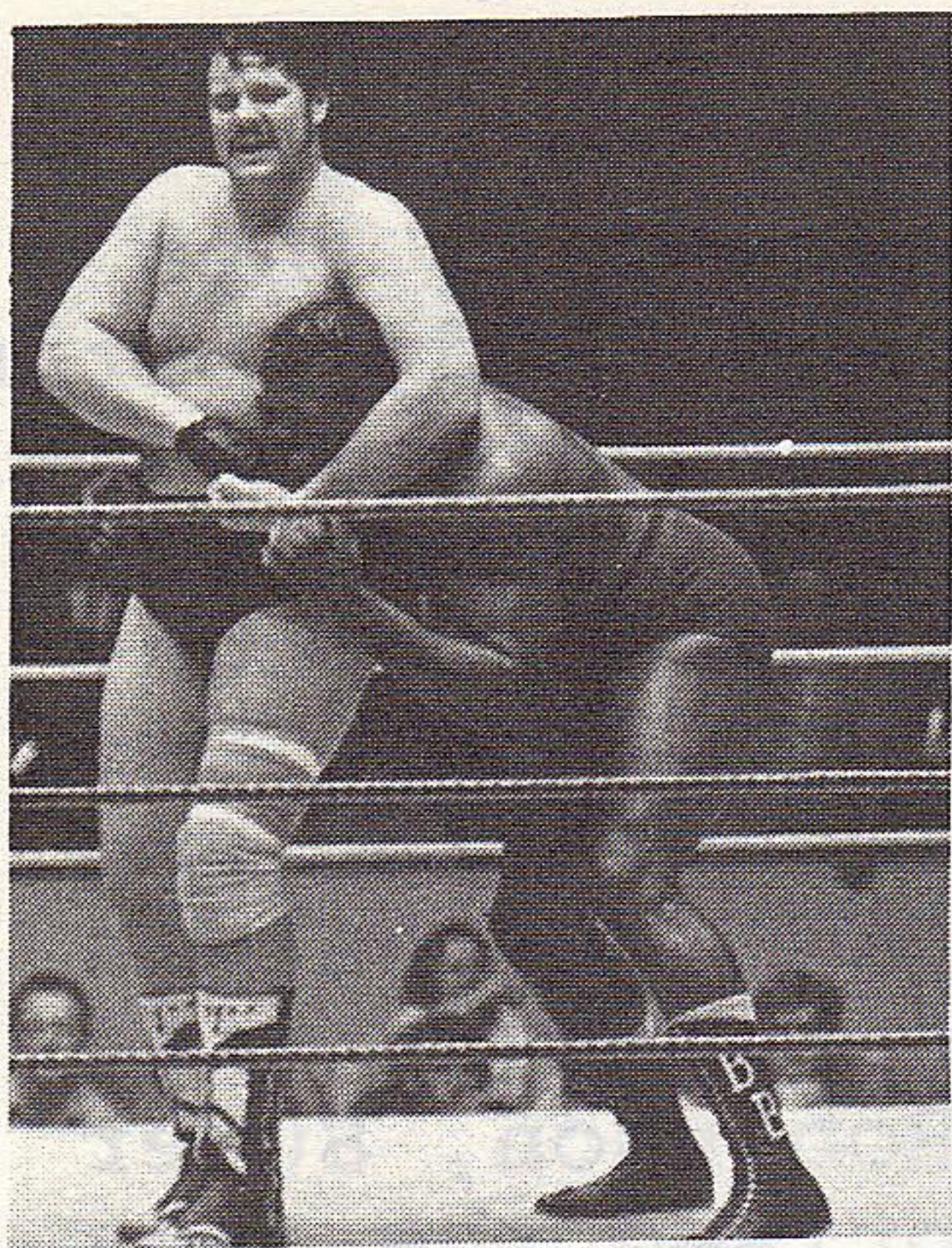


to eliminated men from ring #1, they had to be thrown into ring #2, still in the running until they were thrown from that one. The final 2 in each ring then met in a tag team battle. Bearcat Brown & Randy Curtis won the \$4000 prize, besting Intern #1 & Ronnie Garvin. . . Another interesting variation to the battle royal, is the double battle royal, two such elimination contests be waged simultaneously in adjacent rings. Dec. 26, in Indianapolis, Pepper Gomez won in one ring and Bruno Sammartino in the other. . . The AWA has held a number of battle royals & double battle royals. Most of them have been won by either Billy Robinson, Super star Graham or Ken Patera. Graham surprised the fans in St. Paul who viewed the Sept. 15, double battle royal throwing out Patera to win in one ring, then in a battle of battle royal winners, out-maneuvered Andre the Giant (winner in the other ring) and flipping him over the top rope. Patera has won more battle royals than any other AWA wrestlers, usually disposing of Graham as the last remaining contestant, and on Dec. 19, Ken



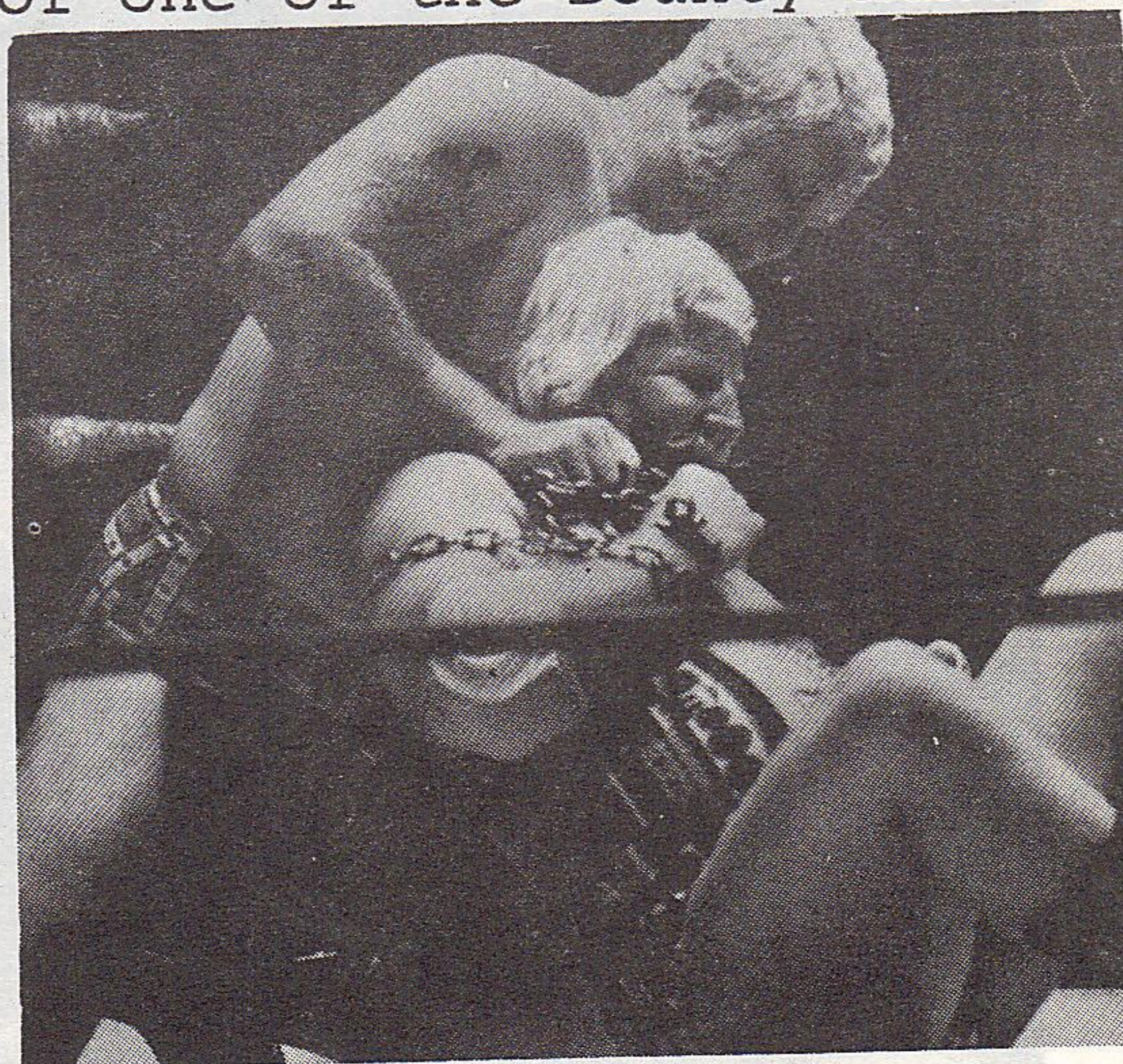
DUSTY RHODES VS DICK THE BRUISER





Mulligan vs Brazil  
Sammartino vs Tanaka  
Missouri Mauler vs Blanchard

won the Honolulu battle royal, outlasting Gene Kiniski. . . Other top battle royal winners, as expected during 1973 were And the Giant, Haystacks Calhoun & Man Mountain Mike. . . . In Detroit, popular stars Bobo Brazil & Tony Marino wrestled Killer Brooks & Pampero Firpo in a tag cage match. The advantages switched back and forth, and several times someone almost climbed out of the cage. Then Tex McKenzie came to ringside and handed Brazil a rope. Bobo proceeded to tie Firpo's leg to the cage, and Marino scampered out, to win the bout. Brazil was then worked over as he was left in the cage alone, and Marino not able to lend a helping hand as he was attacked by Jerry Graham. . . The Bounty Hunters with their manager, Jimmy Kent had a special 6-man tag team elimination match against Bearcat Brown, Dennis Hall & Don Greene. It was called a Hospital Match because you were eliminated only when you began bleeding. Greene was cut above the eye & eliminated first. Dennis Hall then got rid of one of the Bounty Hunters,



Race vs Kirby



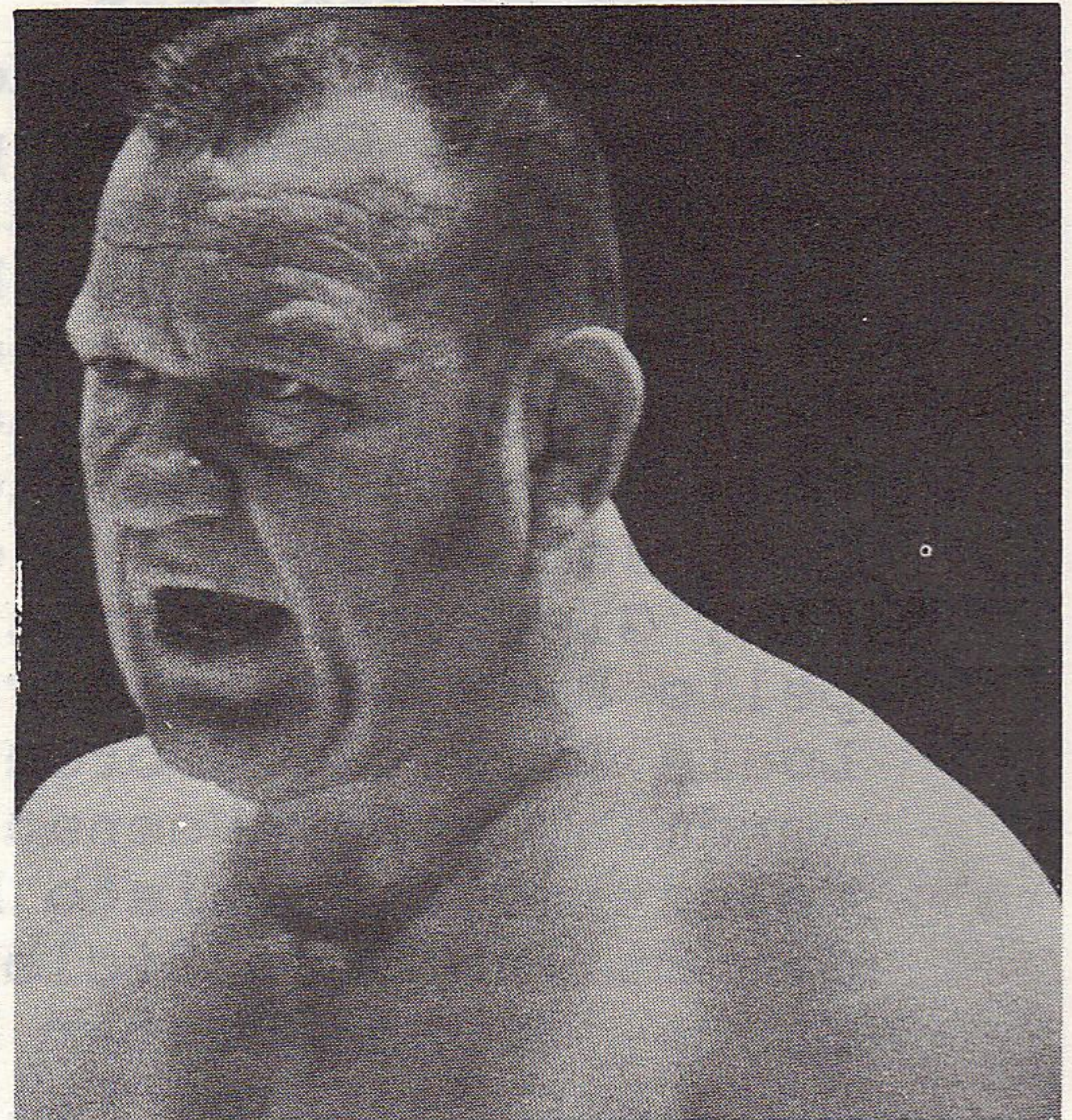
using one their own tricks, a foreign object, to start the blood flowing. Hall went next, when Kent busted him over his left eye with cowboy boot. This left Bearcat Brown in the ring to do battle with 2 men. Brown used his headbutts to cut open Kent, but Jimmy refused to leave and with the Bounty Hunter holding him down Kent took a spur from his boot and cut open the popular Negro star. When the referee could not stop the assault, Greene & Hall returned and mopped up the ring with them, making it one of the goriest matches of the year. . . . Upsets of 1973: Killer Karl Kox beat Wahoo McDaniel, Ronnie Garvin beat Kox, Black Angus Campbell pinned Ivan Koloff, but lost to Bulldog Brown & Tomomi Tsuruta, WWWF Rookie of the Year Tony Garea beat BlackJack Lanza, Rick Hunter beat Jack Brisco shortly before he became NWA Champion, Mr. Fugie beat Chief Strongbow, Karl von Steiger beat Terry Funk several times including a chain match, Pak-Song beat John Tolos, Killer Brooks beat Thunderbolt Patterson, Gino Caruso beat Abdullah the Butcher, Joe Scarpello beat Lars Anderson, Bobby Shane was beaten by Louie Tillet & George Scott, Sonny King beat Black Gordman, Bobby Heenan beat Billy Red Cloud, Johnny Valentine & Mephisto both lost to young Ron Fuller, Jim Dillon beat Ciclon Negro, Don Duffy beat Dennis Stamp, Tarzan Baxter beat Johnny Eagles, Bob Orton Jr. beat Ben Justice, Eric the Red beat Rocky Johnson, Bob Geigel beat Al Hayes, Omar Atlas beat Harley Race, Don & John Fargo beat Gordman & Goliath, and Rufus Jones & Pat O'Connor lost their first tag match in St. Louis to Bill Miller & Terry Funk. . . . In Other Important Results: Tim Woods lost to Bobby Shane in Boston when Shane used his kneebrace; Jack Brisco also lost one to Shane because of the kneebrace, but then won a rematch when he managed to pull off Bobby's brace; Karl Von Krupp beat Curtis Iaukea, Johnny Powers beat von Krupp, Stan Stasiak lost to John Quinn and to Bull Ramos, Bill Watts defeated Jack Brisco, Buddy Colt & Nick Bockwinkel, Killer Kowalski beat Don Leo Jonathan prior to winning the title, Brisco beat Mad Dog Vachon Fritz von Erich & Wahoo McDaniel, Wilbur Snyder beat Ray Stevens, and Andre the Giant beat Ivan Putski.



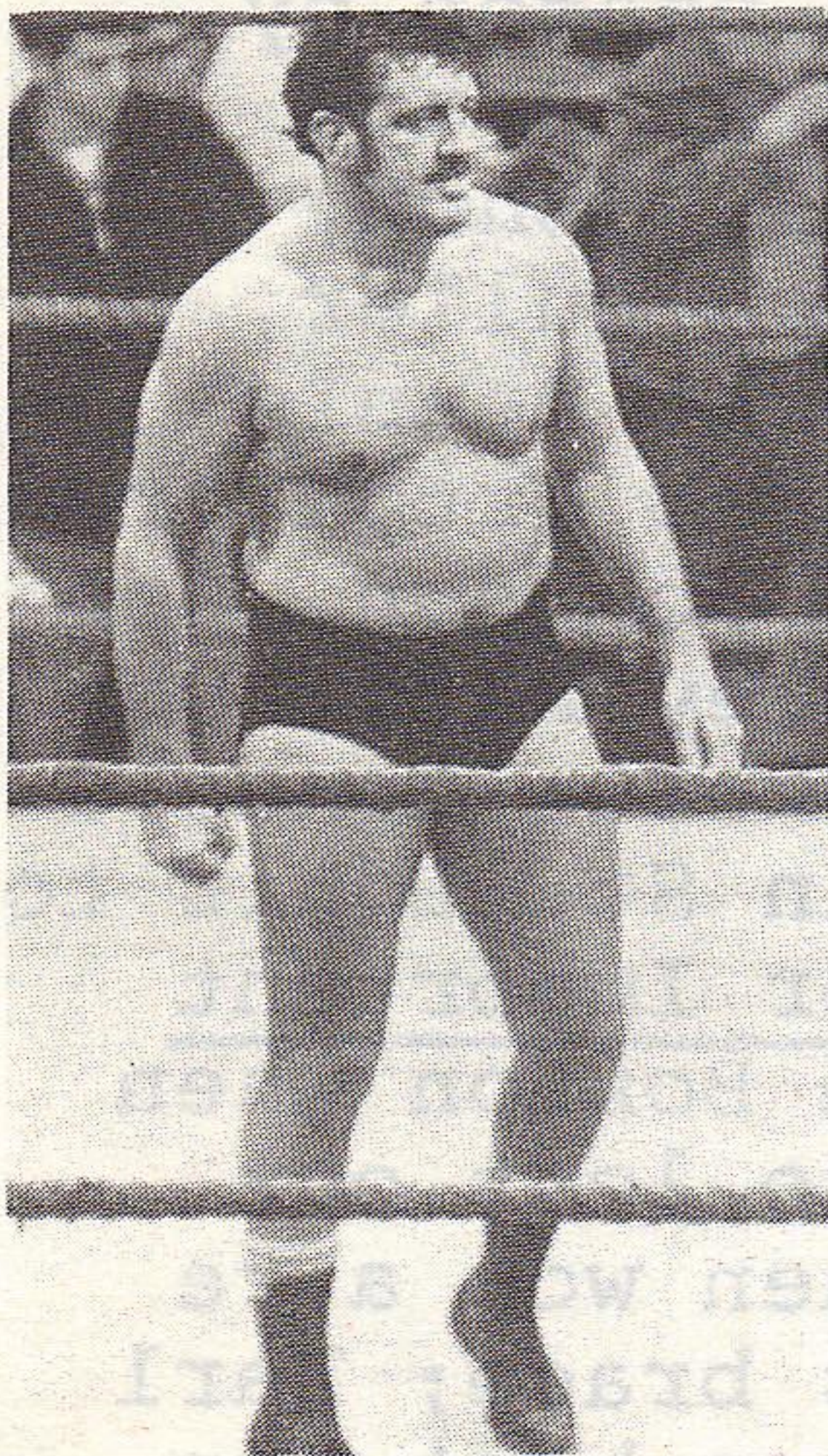
\* \* \* \* WRESTLING'S MAIN EVENT STARS OF 1973 \* \* \* \*

Jose Lothario - Was twice the holder of the Texas heavyweight title and three times holder of the brass knuckles crown. Maintained an exciting feud with BlackJack Mulligan, the man responsible for preventing Jose from holding both titles all year. On Oct. 24 in San Antonio, he defeated NWA Champ Brisco in 2 straight falls, winning the first fall with a figure-4 leglock. When he clamped on the hold in the 2nd fall, his arch enemies, Gordman & Goliath came into the ring to break up the hold, resulting in Brisco being disqualified. During the year, Jose beat Boris Malenko, Brute Bernard, Viking, Missouri Mauler, Black Gordman, Goliath, Bobby Duncum, Tom Jones, John Foley, Cisco Grimaldo & Ernie Ladd. Jose also pinned Dory Funk Jr. in a mere 15 seconds in a tag match he & Fritz von Erich won from Dory and his father.

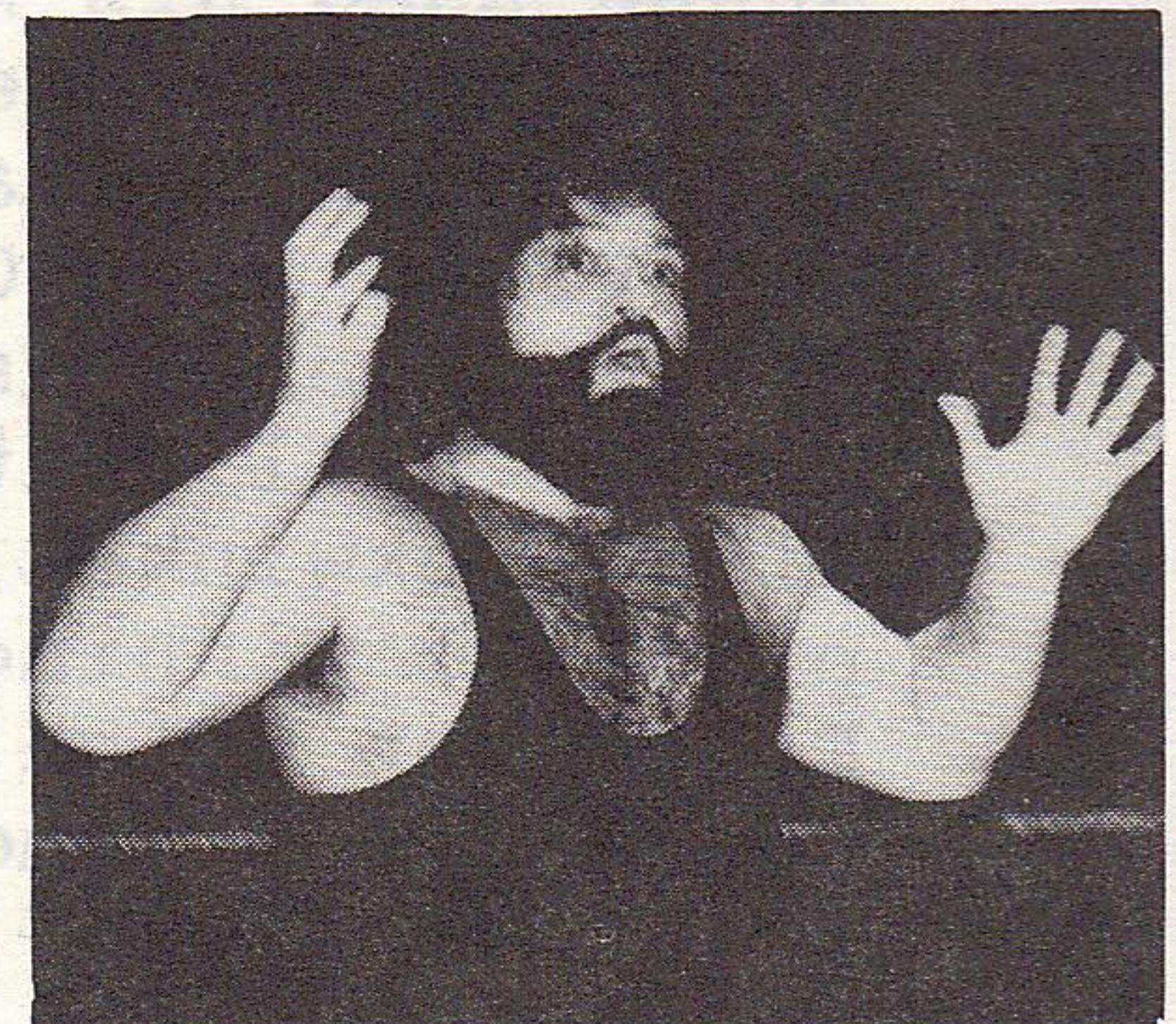
Gene Kiniski - had the rare distinction of defeating all 3 men who held the NWA title in 1973 - unfortunately none of the 3, Race, Funk nor Brisco was in possession of the title when they faced Gene. Other top stars he beat during the year were Dutch Savage, Bulldog Brown, Dick Murdoch, Don Leo Jonathan, Sean Regan, Terry Funk, John Quinn and John Tolos.



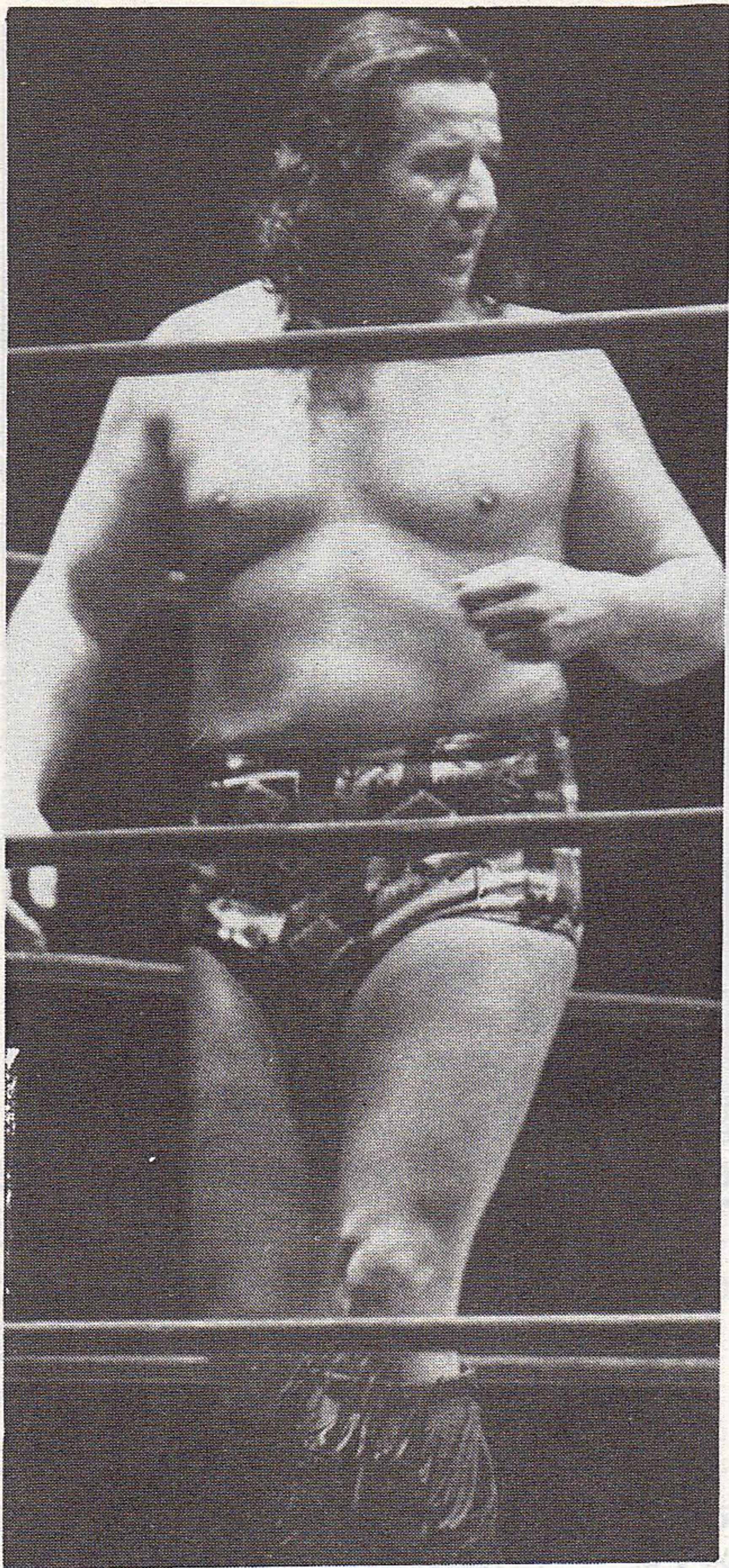
Billy Robinson - wrestled AWA Champion, Verne Gagne twice and won both bouts on disqualification when Verne threw him over the top rope. Billy beat all of the noted AWA villains during the year: Nick Bockwinkel, Ivan Koloff, Dick Murdoch, Dusty Rhodes, & Ray Stevens. In Hawaii, Robinson won the North American title. In January he drew with Dory Funk Jr. in Honolulu and later on in the year beat Fred Blassie there.



Pampero Firpo - won 1973 victories over Tex McKenzie, Haystacks Calhoun, Johnny Valentine, Bearcat Wright, Bull Curry, Ben Justice, Lou Klein, The Beast, Mario Frateroli, Ivan Kalmikoff, the Beast, Magnificent Zulu, and Ben Justice. Teamed with the Sheik for much of the year before breaking up in anger.





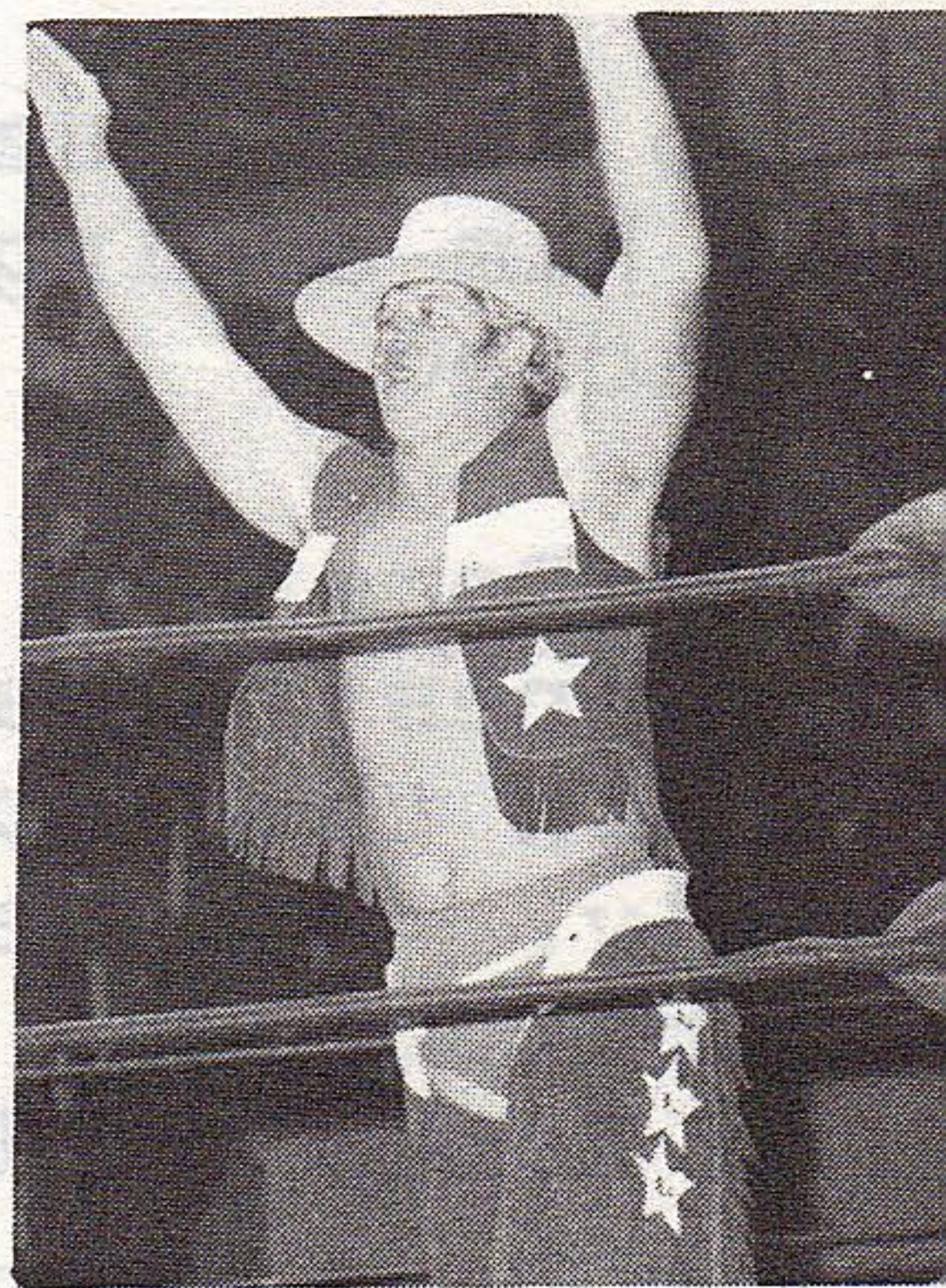


Chief Jay Strongbow - has had the misfortune of wrestling on the East Coast, where the WWWF has a "hero" champion, thus he has never had a chance to gain the title despite beating all the same villains who have been turned back by the champ, such as: Toru Tanaka, Mike McCord, BlackJack Lanza, Vincente Pometti, Fred Blassie, Lonnie Mayne, Buddy Wolff, Curtis Iaukea & Mr. Fugi. He has also drawn with Don Leo Jonathan & beaten Big Bill Miller and Sweet Daddy Siki. Strongbow also had a sensational series of bouts with the Sheik in Detroit and almost dethroned him as U.S. Champion.

Bruno Sammartino - had a most successful year, even before Dec. 10, when he pinned Stan Stasiak's shoulders to regain the WWWF title that he had previously held for 8 years. He defeated Eric the Animal, Paul

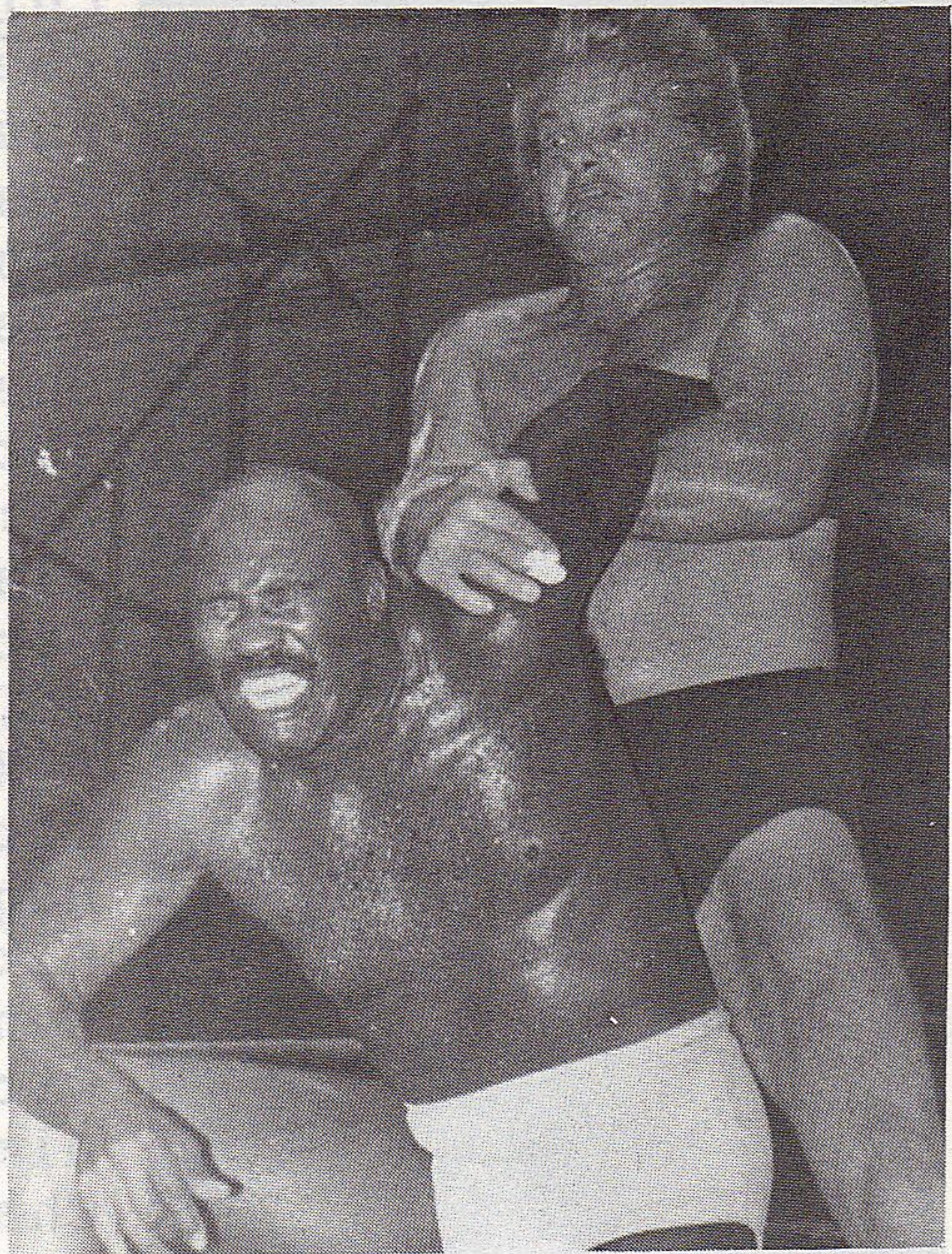
DeMarco, Ray Stevens, Killer Kowalski, Baron von Raschke, Ivan Koloff, Dick Murdoch & Rip Hawk. He travelled extensively, including Japan, and held regional tag team titles with Edouard Carpentier & the Bruiser

Terry Funk - has long been in the shadow of his older brother, the NWA Champion, but an exceptionally great star in his own right. Besides beating the Great Malenko in a chain bout he beat such top talent as Johnny Valentine, Harley Race, Jerry Brisco, Pat O'Connor, Victor Rivera, Karl von Strohheim, Steve Bolus & Ciclon Negro. He has held several titles in his native West Texas and came very close to beat Jack Brisco for the NWA title.

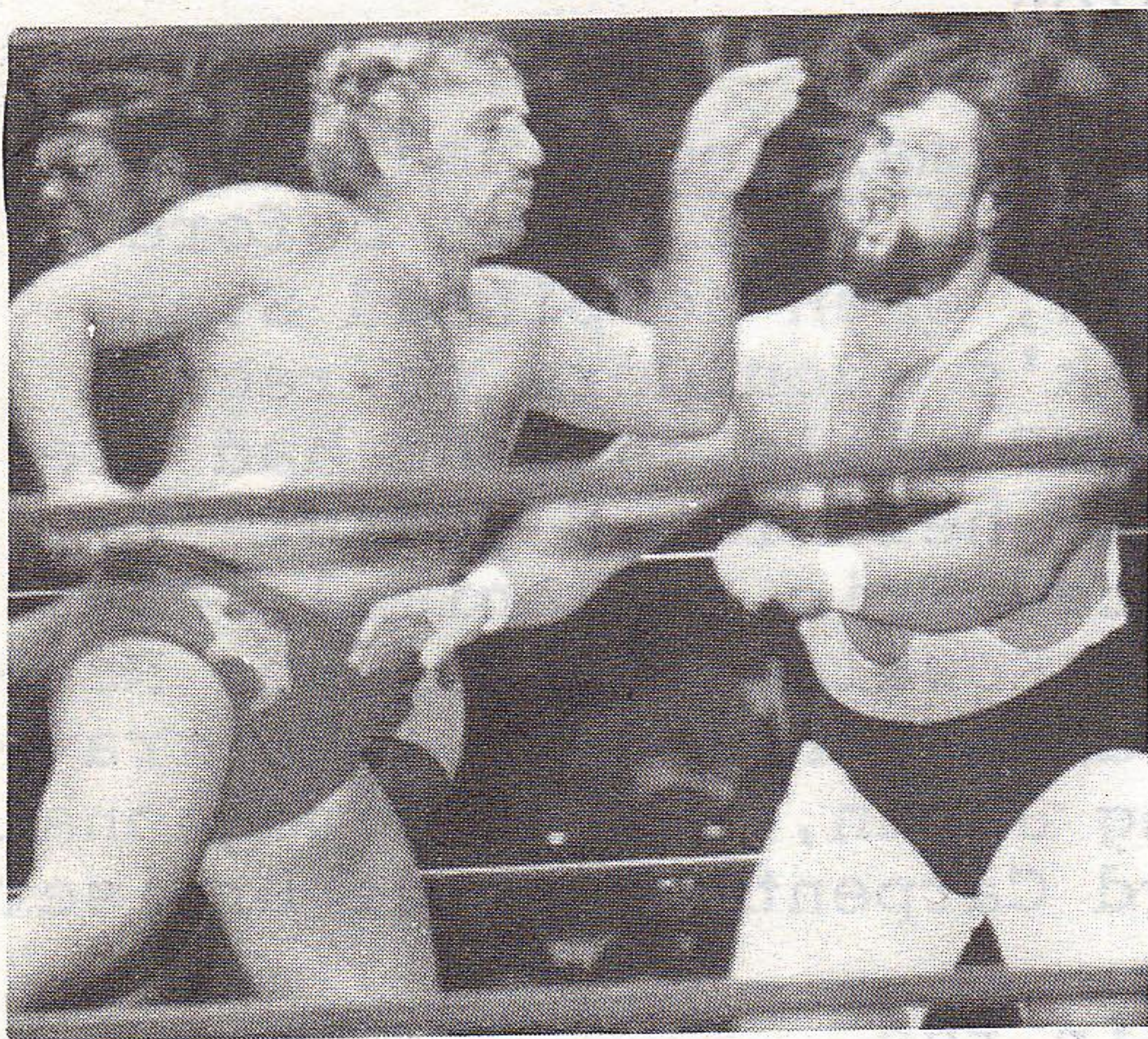




Johnny Valentine - this veteran star who first developed the elbow smash (which he called the brainbuster & atomic skullcrusher) into a winning maneuver, continues to wrestle all around the country and win most of his matches against such competition as: Bill Dromo, Boris Malenko, Bob Bruggers, Jess Ortega, Ron Fuller, Arnold Skoaland, Art Neilson, Eric the Animal, Sweet Daddy Siki, Tim Woods, Lou Thesz, Big Brutus & Harley Race. Seldom does big John enter an area for any length of time without winning a title



The Sheik - armed with a ballpoint pen, an interfering manager & the ability to mysteriously throw fire he has been almost invincible as the U.S. Champion, beating the likes of Igor Vodik, Johnny Powers, Tony Marino, Tiger Jeet Singh, Fred & Bull Curry, Black Angus Campbell, Red Lyons, Bearcat Wright, Lord Layton, Jacques Rougeau, Dom DeNucci & Chief Strongbow.



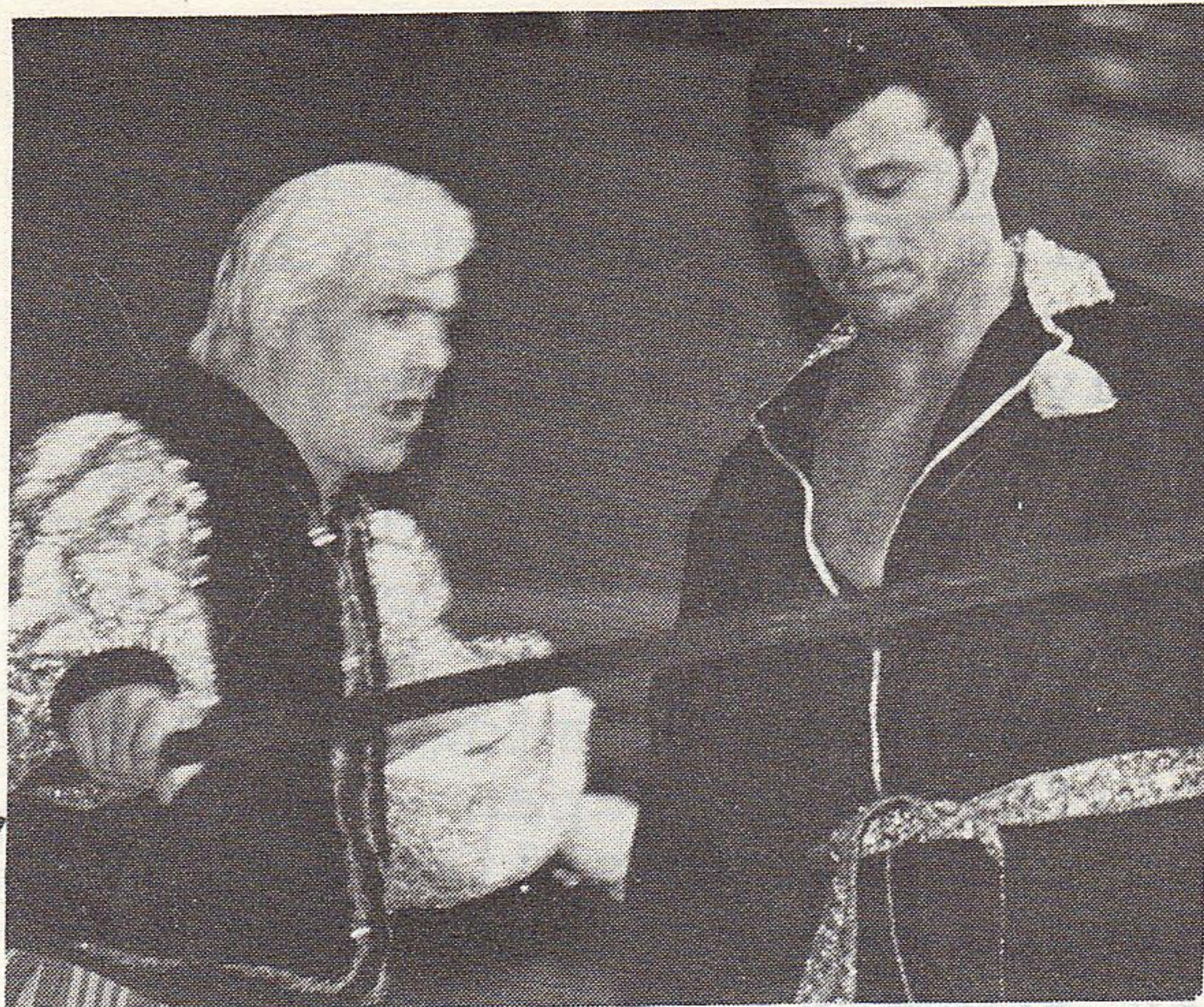
Altho Bobo Brazil & Johnny Valentine took the title from him during the year, he managed to regain it when rematched.

Ricky Romero - The Rocky Mountain Champion is one of the finest wrestlers in the country and extremely popular in the Southwest, where he wrestles almost exclusively. Fans everywhere can appreciate his record which includes wins over: John Tolos, Karl von Krupp, Nick Bockwinkel, Harley Race, Ciclon Negro, Jim Dillon, Ernie Ladd, Hank James, Don Fargo, Goliath, The Beast,

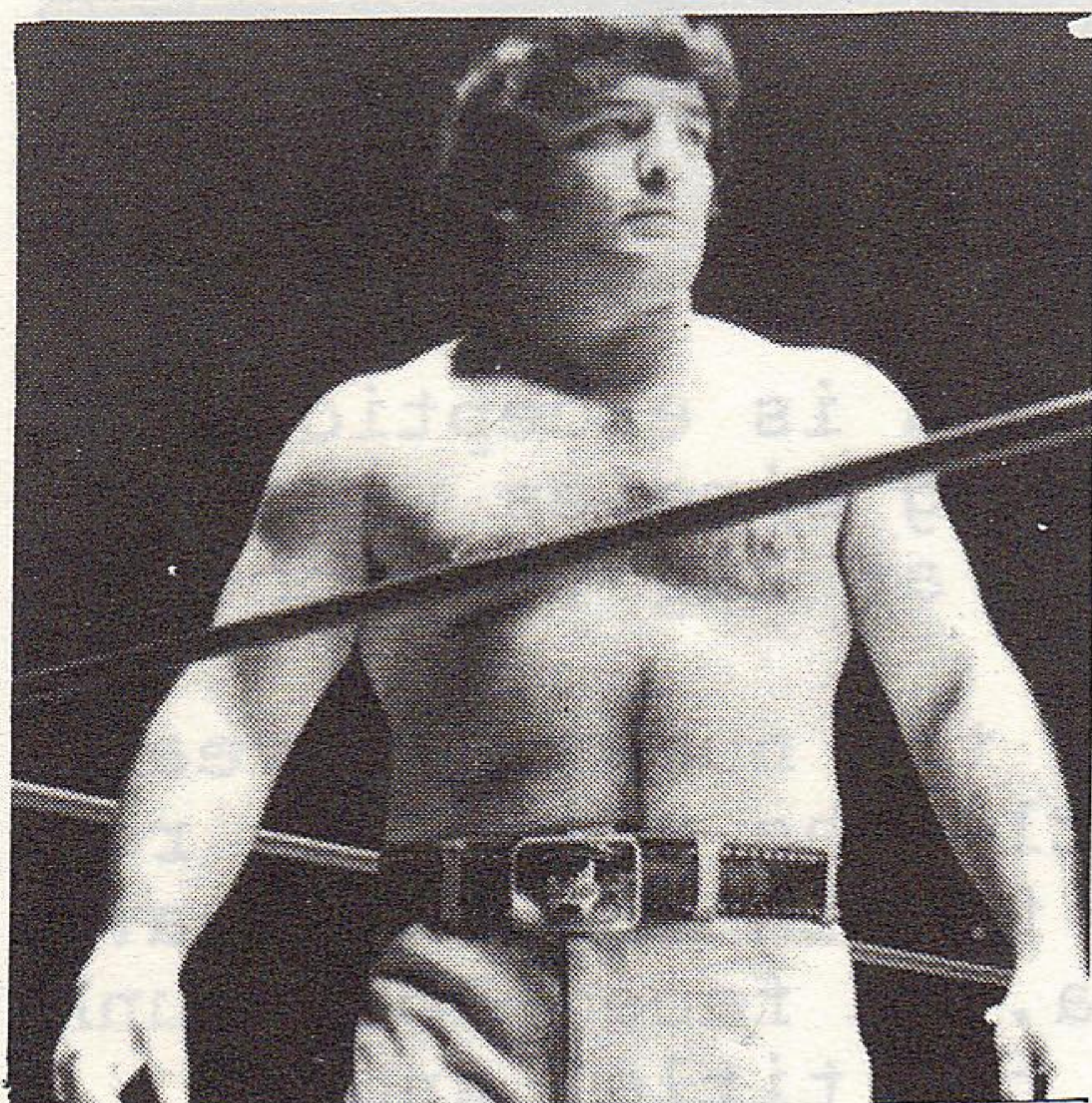


Boris Malenko, Ric Flair  
Bull Ramos, Pat O'Connor  
Mr. Okuma & Roger Kirby

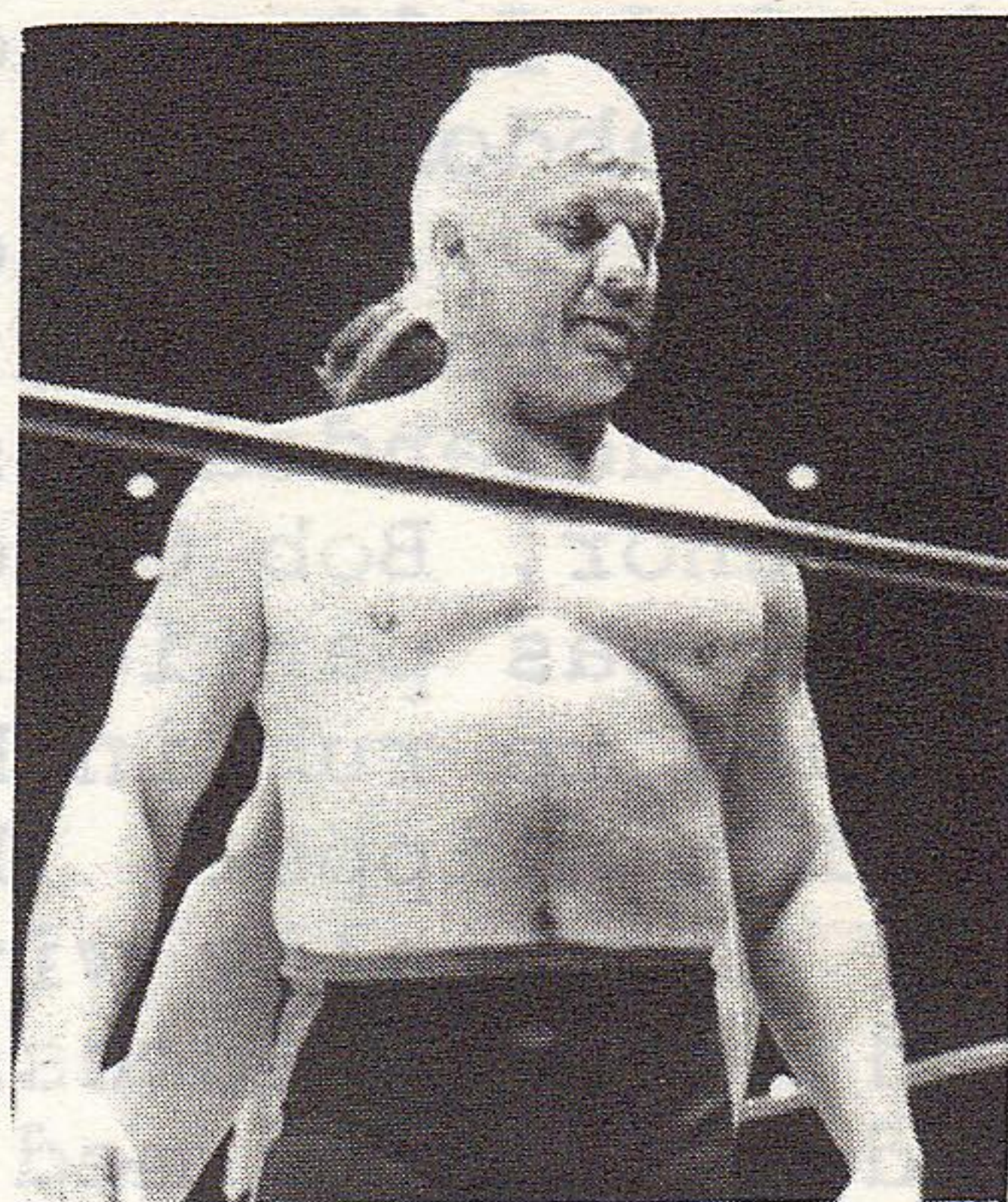
Pat Patterson - held  
both the United States &  
U.S. tag team titles  
(with Rocky Johnson)  
during 1973. His tough-  
est Northern California  
foes were: Dutch Savage,  
Kinji Shibuya, Mr. Saito,  
Lonnie Mayne, Mephisto,  
& Crazy Luke Graham.



Paul Jones (left) & Buddy Colt  
(lower right) have spent most  
of the year wrestling in main  
events thruout Florida. There  
seems to be little to choose  
between the two. Both of them  
can boast of wins over: Big Bad  
John, Johnny Walker, Mark Lewin,  
Jack Brisco, & Boris Malenko.  
Formerly friends, they are a-  
bout even in matches against  
one another since breaking up.  
Jones who is



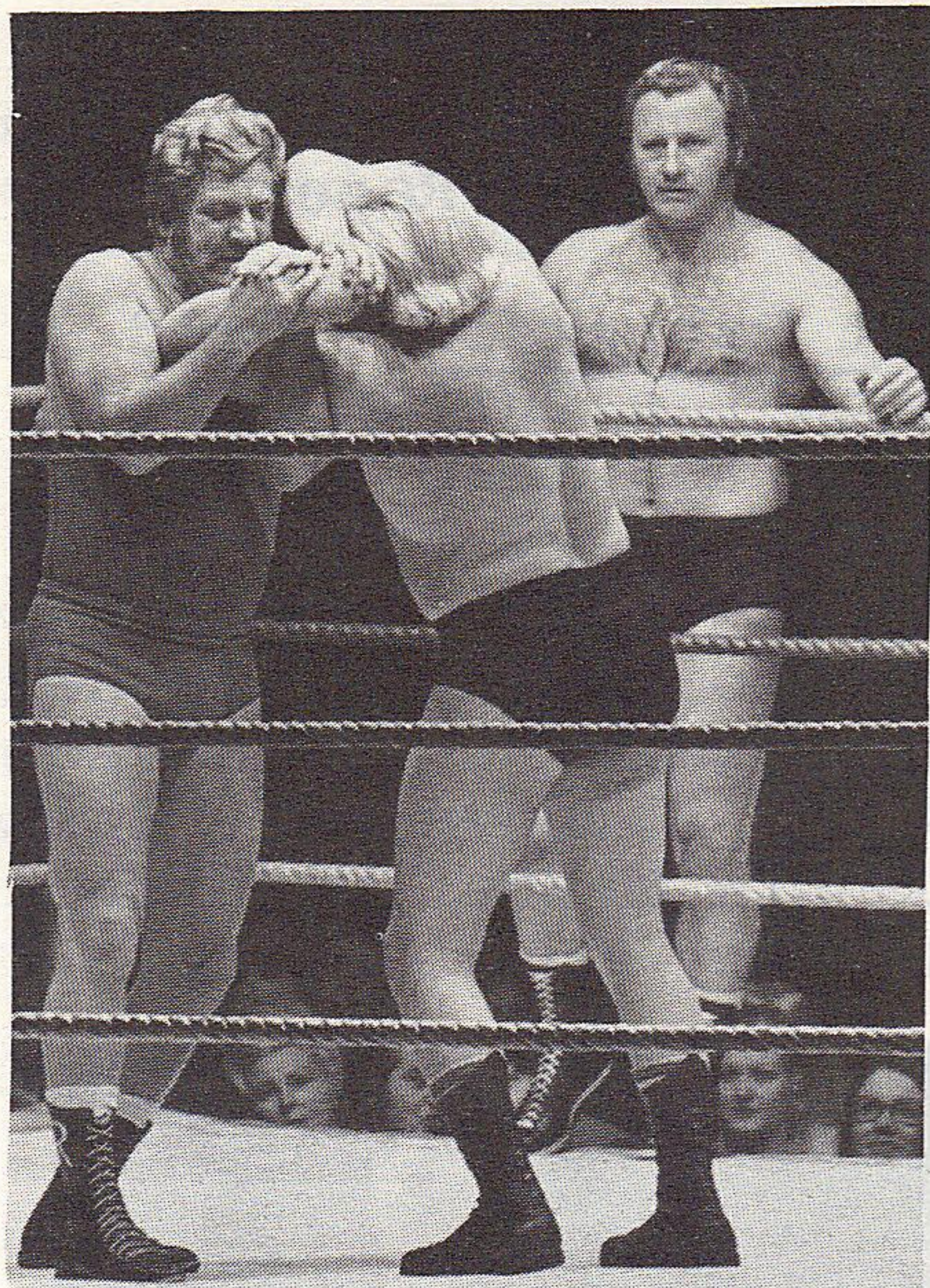
now matched against villains most of  
the time has beaten Dick Slater, Dale  
Lewis, Dusty Rhodes, Rip Hawk, as  
well as Man Mountain Mike & Les That-  
cher. . . Colt has beaten such Flori-  
da favorites as Eddie Graham, Thunder  
bolt Patterson, Jimmy Golden, Manuel  
Soto, Jack Welch, Ron Fuller, Tim  
Woods, Joe & Paul LeDuc. . . The Colt-  
Jones friendship deteriorated when  
Buddy tried interfering on behalf of  
Paul as he was attempting to win the  
Southern title from Mark Lewin. Instead he accident-  
ally hit Jones with the brassknuckles. The break was  
completed when Jones accidentally elbow dropped Colt  
off the top rope when they challenged Tim Woods & Big  
Bad John for the State tag title & ended up fighting





each other.

Red Bastien - combine his scientific knowledge with his high-flying style of dropkicks & flying head scissors, and his willingness to mix-it-up with the ruffians and you have a wrestler who is popular and successful wherever he appears whether its the midwest, Texas California or Japan - where Red did his wrestling in 1973, winning against the likes of: Ray Stevens, Nick Bockwinkel, Reggie Parks, Bobby Heenan, Mighty Inoue, Fritz vonGoering, Pepper Gomez, Beauregarde, Jan Madrid, Manuel Cruz, Terry Garvin, both Samoans & Ivan Koloff. Red is exceptional in that he is not only an outstanding singles wrestler, but is most experienced & adept at tag team bouts.



Danny Hodge - altho best known for the number of years he has held the NWA Jr. Hvywt. title, he will best remember 1973 for how close he came to winning the heavy weight title. On May 21, in Tulsa, he faced Dory Funk Jr. (just 3 days before Funk lost the title) and in the 3rd fall managed to catch the exhausted champion in an abdominal stretch. Dory Sr. saved the title for his son by jumping in the ring, hitting Danny, and ending the bout on disqualification for his interference. Danny defended his title against Tarzan Baxter, Chuck O'Connor, Bob Orton Jr, Jerry Miller & Ricki Starr. Starr was particularly dangerous because he would use powder to rub in Danny's eyes, which he stored in his ballet slipper. Hodge also did much tag team wrestling especially with ex-rival Dr. X. They stopped what had been a successful team of Bob Sweetan & Rip Tyler. Hodge also formed a successful tag team with Scandor Akbar that later was broken up over a misunderstanding. His biggest win of the year was over Jackie Fargo.

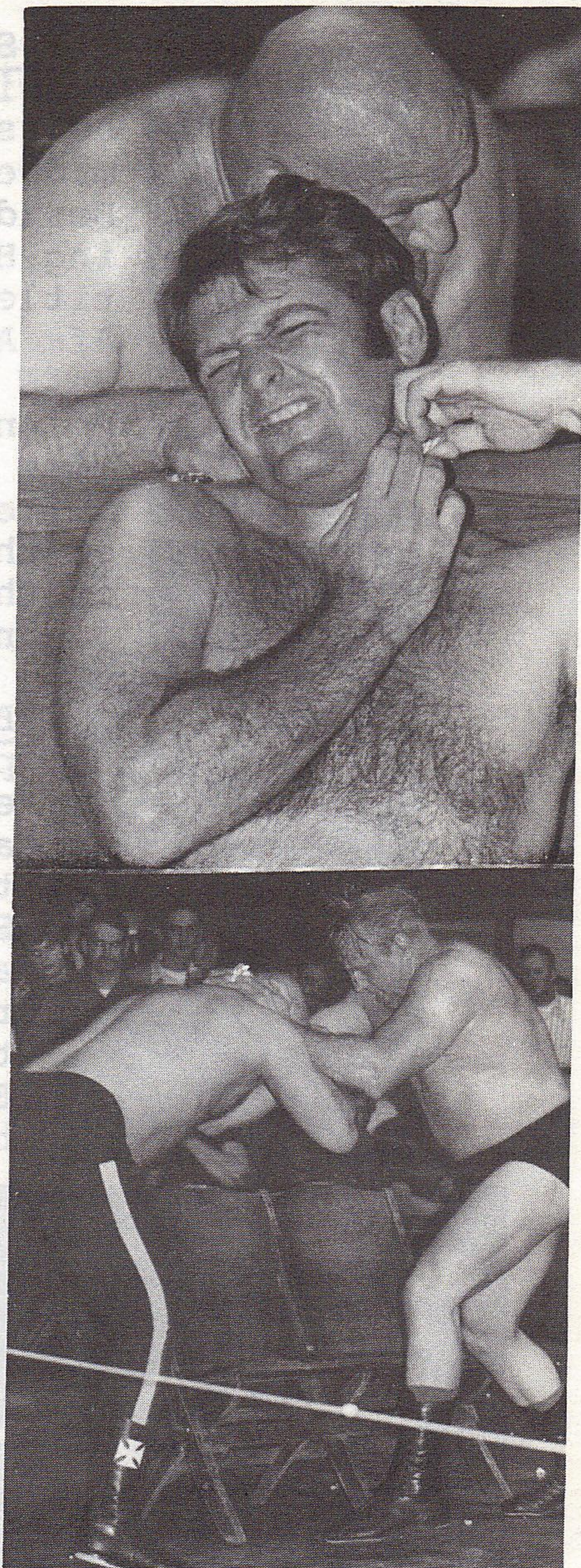
The Mighty Yankees - were a successful Southern tag team, managed by George Harris. With his help and the



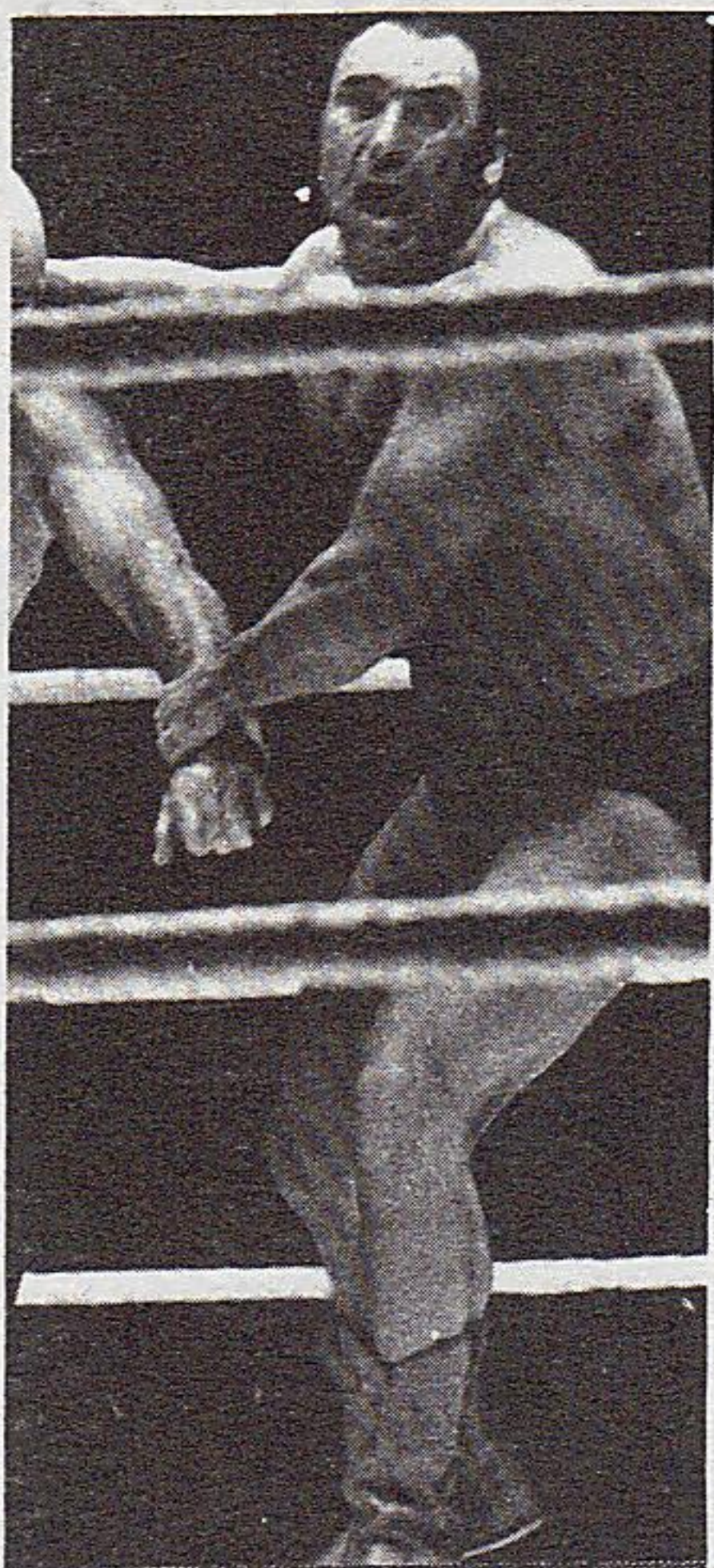
use of chains & loaded gloves they beat such teams as Terry Latham & Randy Curtis, Johnny & Marshall Field, and Johnny Marlin & Tojo Yamamoto.

Brute Bernard (shown choking Johnny Weaver) who will do anything to win, including the use of chairs or any kind of object. In Texas he teamed with the Missouri Mauler under the direction of Gary Hart, then moved to the Carolinas where he teamed with Jay "The Alaskan" York with Beauregarde as their manager. Both teams usually won or was disqualified. In 1973 singles matches, Bernard beat: Bobby Whitlock, Scott Casey, Bobby Duncum, Tom Jones & Zuma.

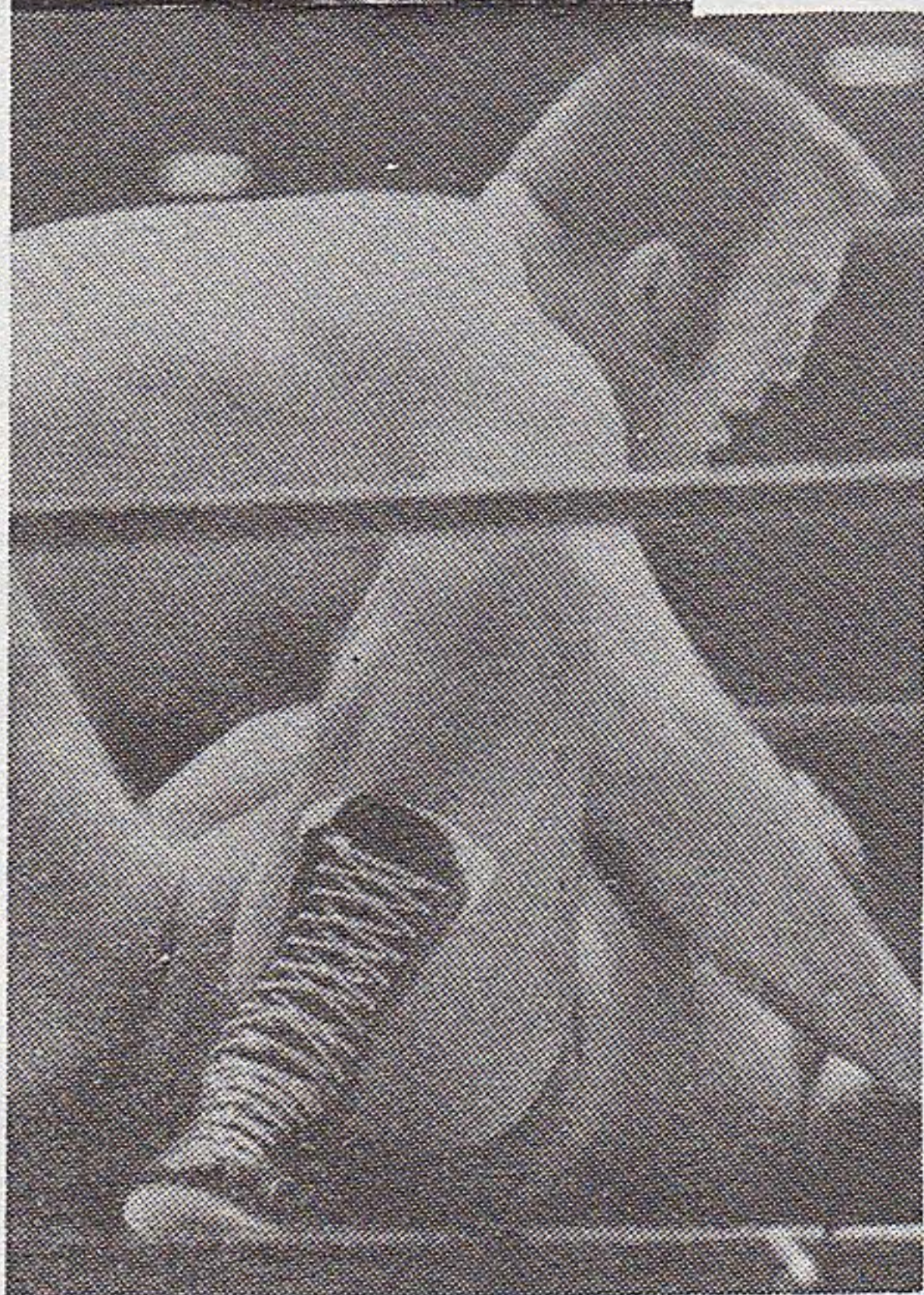
Art Neilson & Johnny Weaver - are 2 of the most popular men to wrestle in Virginia & the Carolinas. They have fought & beat all of the rugged, unscrupulous area teams such as York & Bernard, Gene & Ole Anderson Michael DuBois & Fred Sweetan, Rip Hawk & Swede Hanson, and the Royal Kangaroos. Neilson, who formed a great & hated duo with Reggie (Crusher) Lisowski in the fifties, has wrestled mainly in the South for the past decade, however, it has only been the past few years he has been matched against villains & teaming with heroes such as Weaver. His tactics are now appreciated against the likes of Gene Anderson, Mike DuBois, George Harris etc. whether in tag matches or in singles bouts. . . Weaver, a great wrestler who has mastered the sleeper hold, twice held Dory Funk Jr. to draws while he held the NWA title.



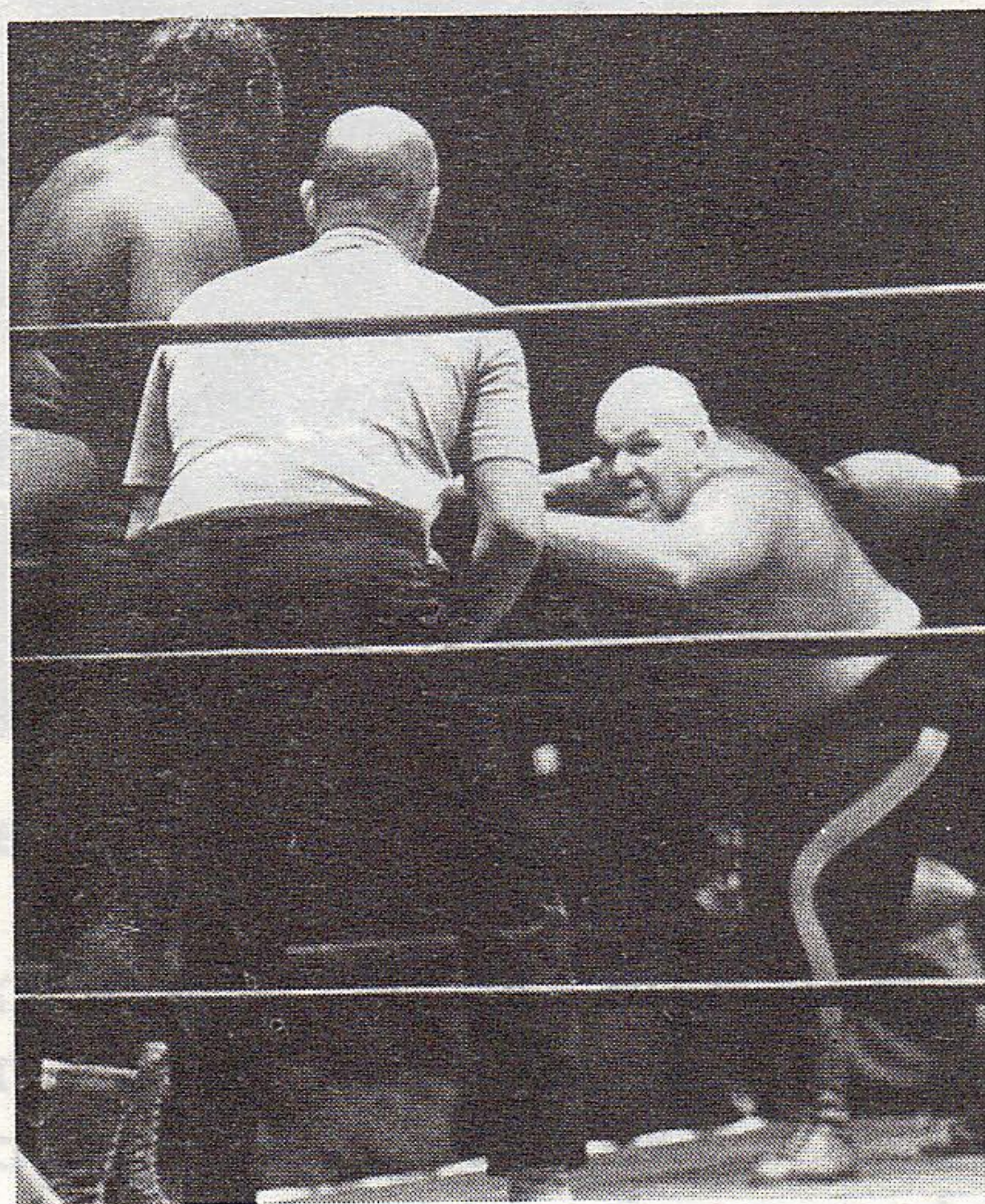




The Stomper - In the West Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan & Calgary he is thought of in the same terms midwesterners hold Dick the Bruiser. Besides coming very close to defeating Harley Race when he held the NWA title, he has destroyed the likes of Afa Anoaia, Klondike Bill, Bill Cody, Jeff Atchison, Dan Kroffat & Viking. He annually makes a tour of the Maritime Provinces out East where he is quite popular. Altho others have used the name, Stomper, Archie Goldie, is the best known, for he has never needed any further identification.



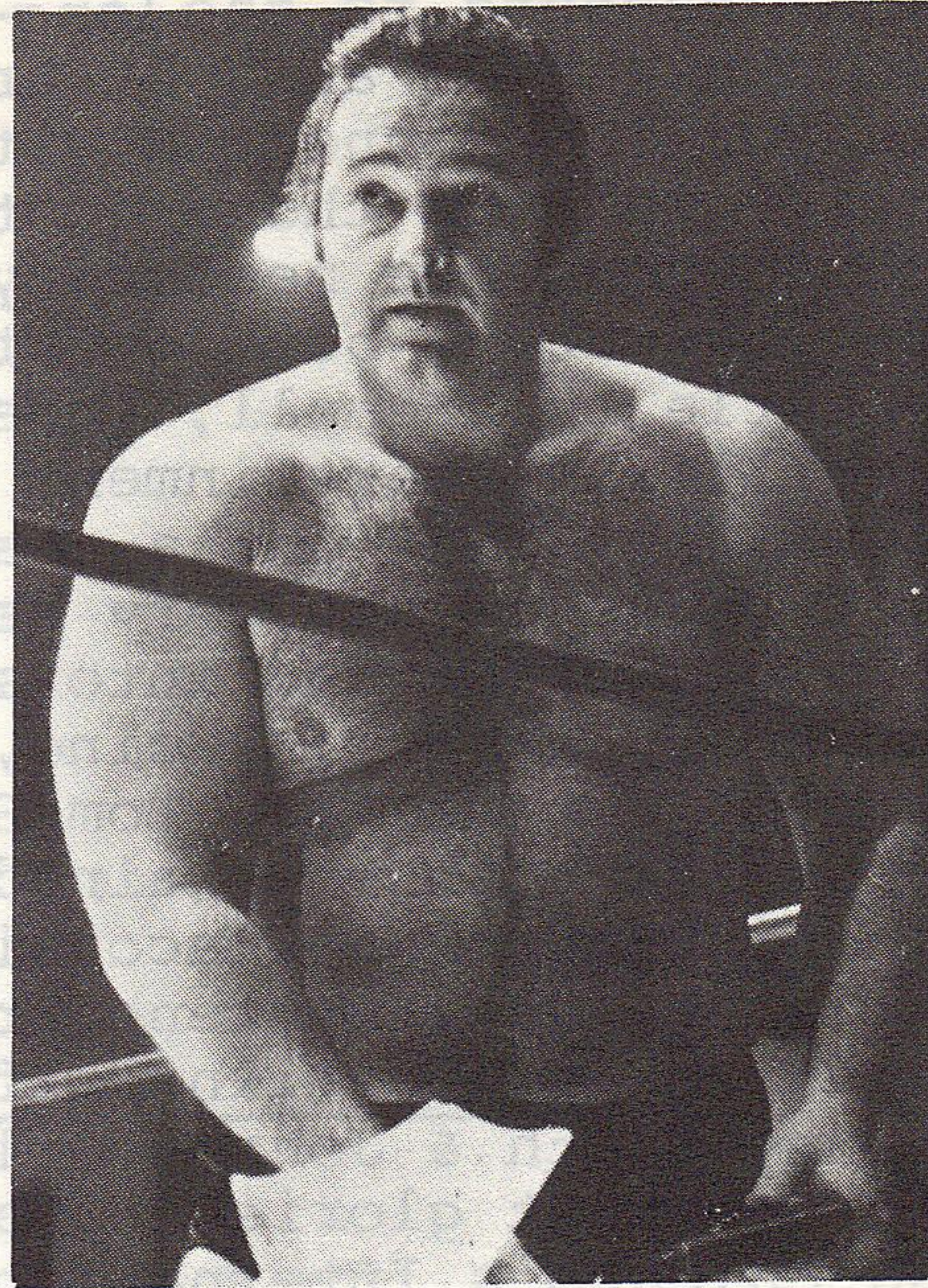
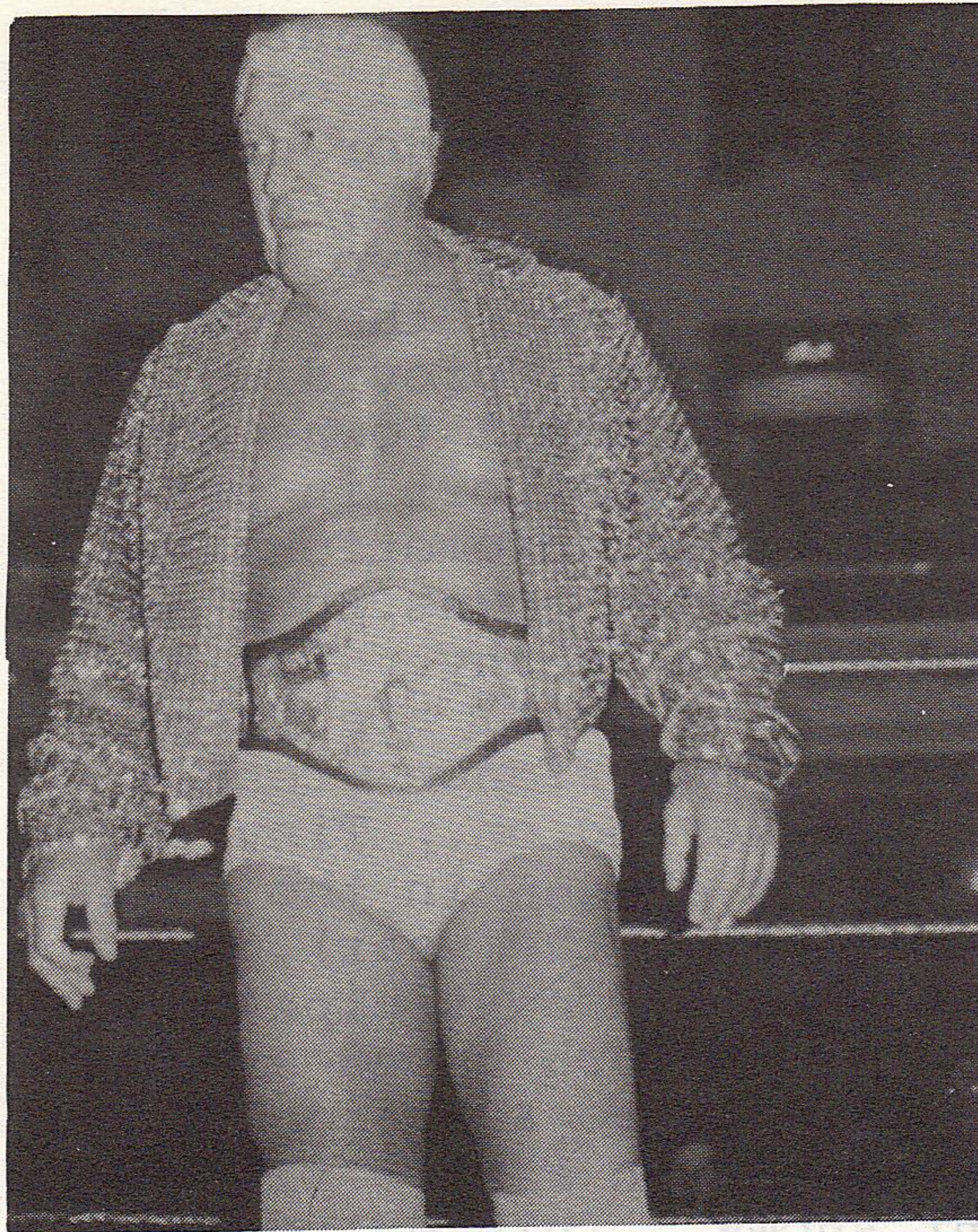
Bulldog Bob Brown - for the 1st part of 1973 he wrestled in main events in British Columbia, both as a single & in tag bouts. From there he moved to the Central States area where he won the area title & held it thruout the remainder of the year. Among those he has beaten this year: Eddie Morrow, Black Angus Campbell, Danny Little Bear, Zuma, Mike George & Jim Brunzell.



George Steele - dares to take on the very best, men like Brazil, Monsoon, Morales, Sammartino & Strongbow. He creates excitement using tables, chairs & other foreign objects. He went after Morales with his own title belt & has even ripped off a referee's shirt to use for choking purposes. His big wins for 1973 came against Haystacks Calhoun & Dan Miller.

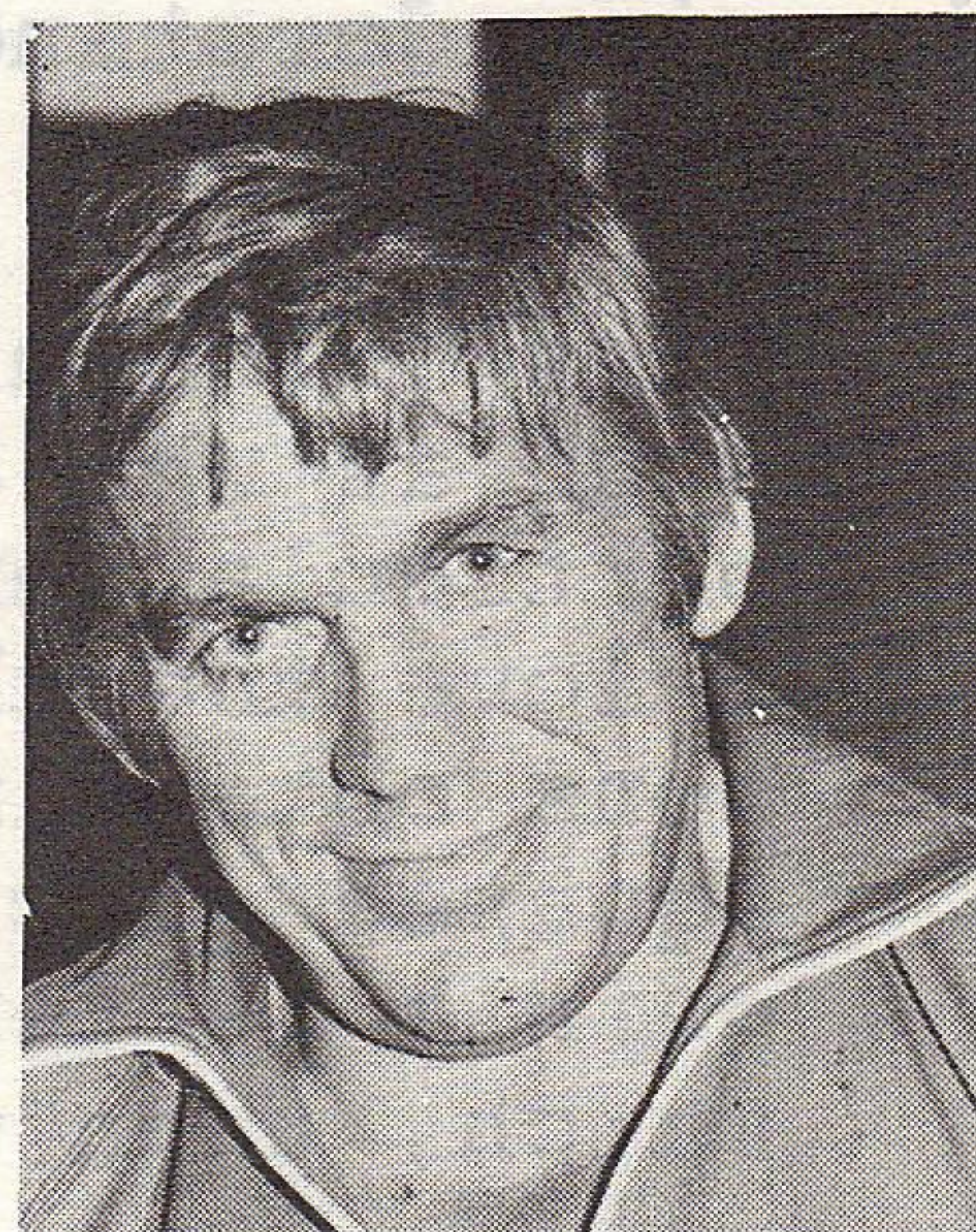
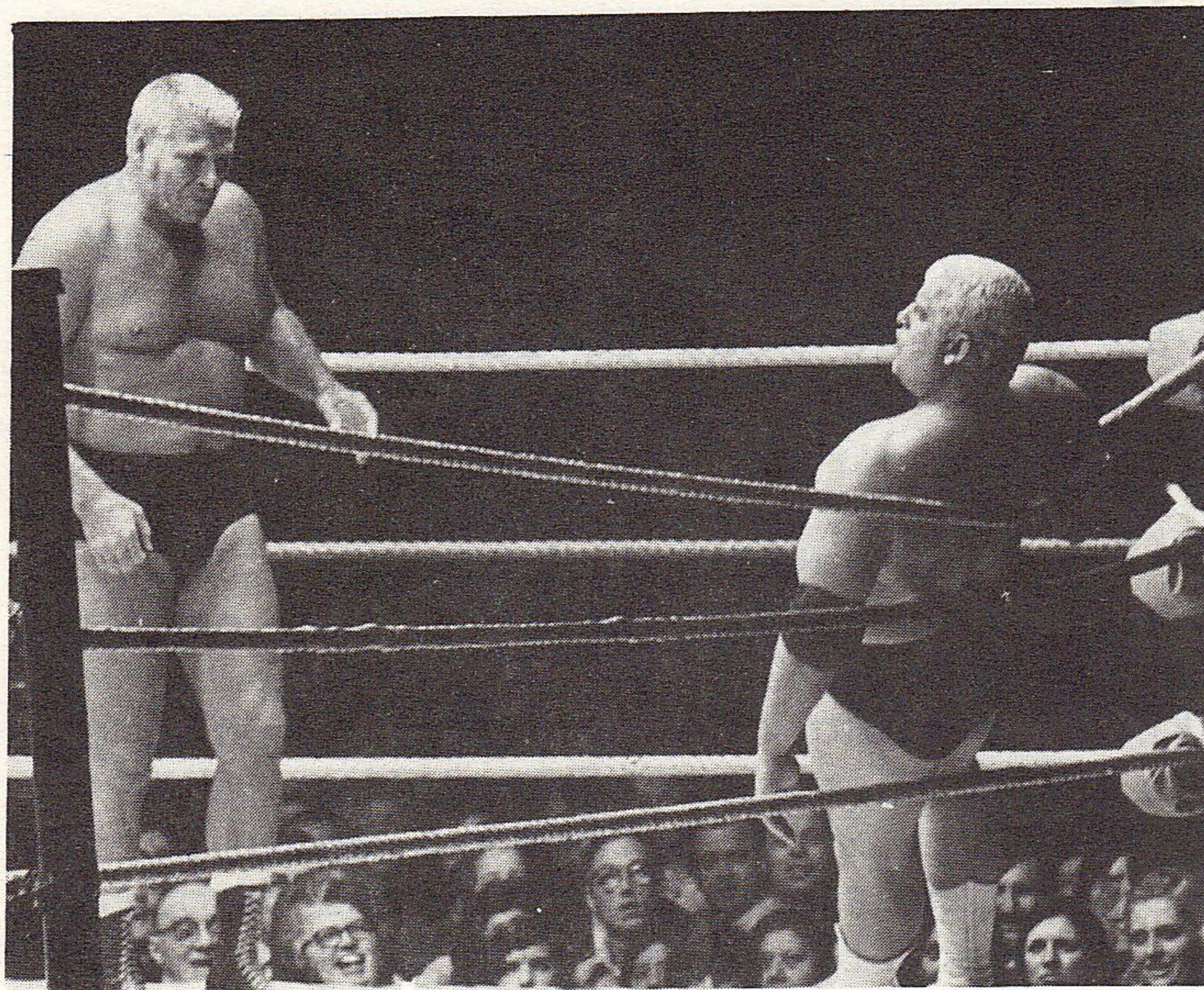
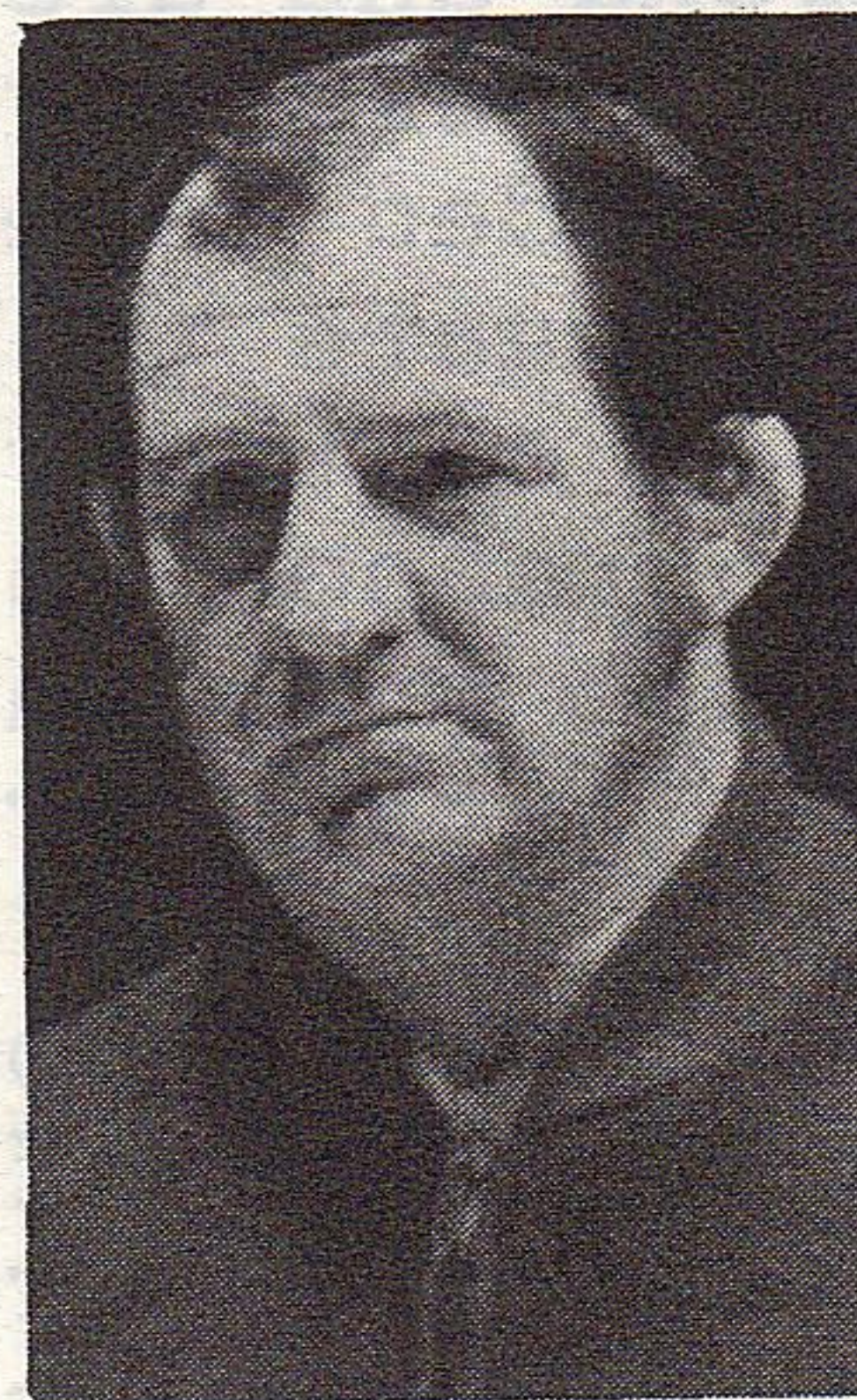
Regretfully lack of space prevents us from mentioning so many other deserving stars. On the opposite page is a tribute to 5 of the greatest.





SUPERSTARS SPANNING 3 DECADES  
 FRED BLASSIE, MARK LEWIN, PAT  
 O'CONNOR, ED CARPENTIER, WILBUR  
 SNYDER (clockwise from top left)

1950s  
 1960s  
 1970s





What happens to the long-time wrestlers, who want to remain active and yet are unwilling to do all of the travelling connected with wrestling on a major circuit? How do those just beginning to wrestle, obtain the experience necessary to survive on the pro level? The answer to both questions is the same - they can wrestle on a small, independent circuit, providing thrills & entertainment for those in small towns who normally don't get a chance to see the sport in person. One of the very best independent promotions has brought wrestling into small Wisconsin towns such as Monroe, Elkhorn, Racine, Stoughton & Cudahy. Tom DeMarco, Don Reeves, Tom Shaft & Buddy Pearl are examples of those who gained valuable experience wrestling in Southern Wisconsin before moving on. Tiny Tim Hampton, Jose Bettencourt (who was chosen in the late fifties as Wrestling Life's rookie of the year), big Lenny Smith & Johnny Gilbert, have all participated in the past glories of appearing in such famed arenas as Chicago's International Amphitheatre & Marigold Arena and are now content to appear on a more irregular basis for the independent shows. This editor has attended several of these wrestling cards and feels fortunate to be acquainted with many of the wrestlers. Some of their bouts number among the best I ever saw. The reason is obvious - the wrestlers are there because they enjoy what they are doing, not because they are getting rich at it.

One of the most controversial personalities on the circuit is the flamboyant manager-wrestler, Colonel Roger Peabody. I recently sat down with the Colonel and my tape recorder and we talked. He was most agreeable as he contended there was a great need to remove some of the misunderstanding in the minds of the wrestling public.

Q. First, I would like some background on you, Colonel such as why are you a manager? and, do you get any particular enjoyment out of it?

A. I love the thrill of seeing one of my great champions obtaining an impressive victory within the squared circle. Perhaps it's because I am able to gain a better perspective of the progression of a match, than when I, myself, am demolishing a foe.



Of course, this does not mean that I cannot enter the ring when the opportunity arises.

- Q. Does this mean that you would physically assist one of your wrestlers to help him win? I've even heard many fans and other wrestlers claim you have used foreign objects. What about this?
- A. Absolutely not! That is a bloody lie! When I am inside the ring, it is in the capacity of a wrestler, not a manager. My champions need only my expert guidance in helping them to greatness.
- Q. To be more specific, I'd like to inquire about what seemed to me, to be a foreign object you used in your recent match with Tiny Tim Hampton?
- A. This is pure poppy-cock! I just happened to have a handkerchief in my trunks and when I saw MR. Hampton, obviously exhausted, and perspiring heavily, my humanitarian feelings came to the fore, and I was moved to dry off his forehead.



Col. Roger Peabody, splendidly attired to manage Vic Eagles



Peabody dons his wrestling outfit to team with Pete Colt



Q. Oh, come on now, you don't expect anyone to believe that, do you?

A. Actually, I don't care one bit, what you or the fans think. If there was a foreign object in the ring, it's embedded in his forehead. That animal drove that steel plate of his into my head, nearly knocking me unconscious. Next time I wrestle him, I think I'll come equipped with some sort of head-gear.

Q. Lately, I've heard you speaking about the values of astrology. Do you really believe it has been any help to you?

A. Most affirmatively. The science of astrology, when properly applied can insure the avoidance of pitfalls that might otherwise occur. Often a planetary configuration will spell trouble for one of my champions, if so, then I try to reschedule the bout for a more propitious occasion.

Q. Could you elaborate further?

A. I won't go into any details, or those denizens of dirty deeds, the fans, would be hopelessly confused. Lets just say that I obtain the opponent's birth-date and draw up his chart, comparing its strong points with my wrestler's chart, on the date in question. By examining those charts, the secrets of the stars are made known to me.

Q. One last question, Colonel, do you have anything that is especially irritating to you?

A. Many, but two in particular, I could mention. First I would like to secure some better opponents for both myself and my charges. The inferior quality of the wrestlers we've been matched with until now, has been appalling. Bring on the heavyweight champs & top tag teams -- we're ready for them all! Second I am more than a little annoyed by the emergence of a masked wrestler by the name of the Zodiac. This man is trying to outshadow me. I know this man's identity, but won't reveal it, as I respect his reason for concealment - that is the fact he is an inferior wrestler, and an even worse astrologer. His knowledge of astrology is woefully inadequate, since he uses only the Sun signs in reaching his conclu-





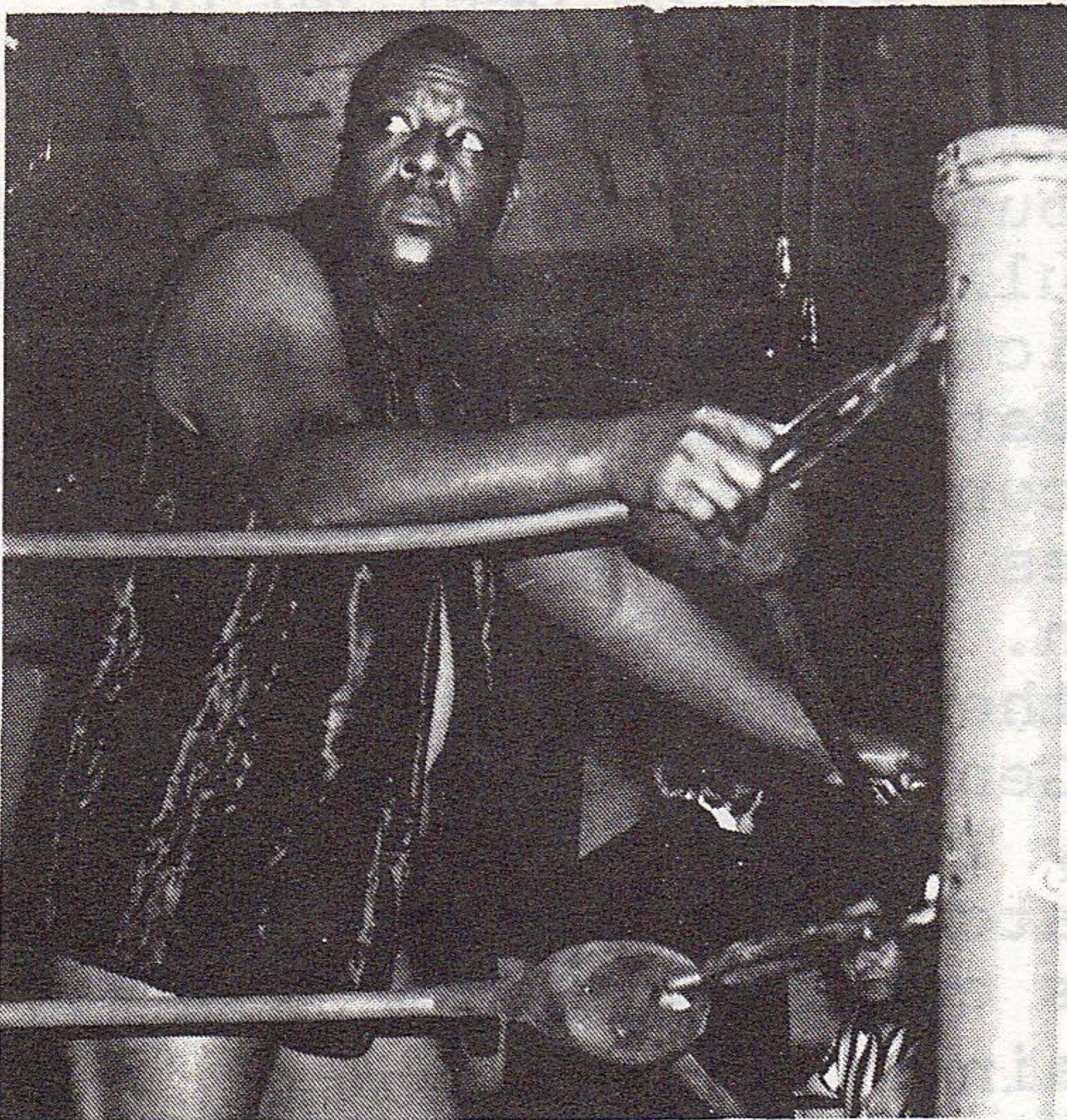
Jose Bettencourt

sions, while any astrologer worth his salt, uses all the planets. I'd dare say that his poor mentality is due to an afflicted Mercury in his chart, and I issue a challenge to him to come to any area where I or my champions wrestle, and I would show him who the better astrologer AND wrestler is.

### 1973 WISCONSIN HIGHLIGHTS

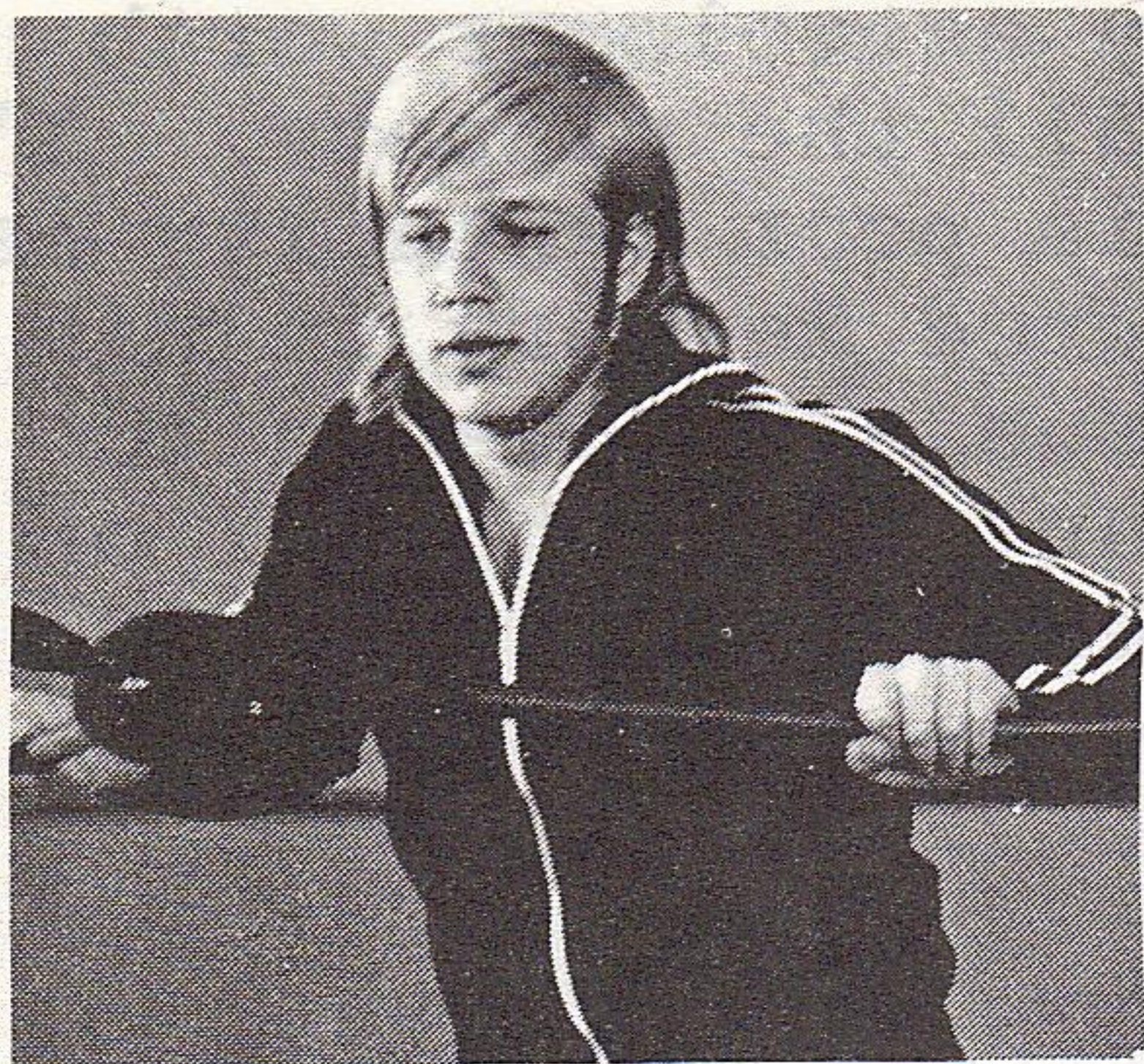
On Apr. 14, a 14-man battle royal was held in Racine to determine who would become the circuit's heavy-weight champion. Jose Bettencourt was the winner, utilizing his speed to out-maneuver Lenny Smith & Kurt von Stroheim, the 2 villainous foes he found himself alone in the ring with as the battle royal came to a conclusion. . . Bettencourt won an earlier battle royal in Monroe, flipping out big Gene Gordon to be the sole survivor in the 10-man battle royal. . . The Ratman terrorized the scene - a big, hulking creature

wearing a rat-like mask. He carried a box to the ring, with rats inside, that he would display before his match would begin, often-times putting one in his mouth. When he wrestled, no one at ringside was safe as he often scurried from the ring, especially announcer Greg Wagner, who was hit on numerous occasions. The owner of Turner Hall went after him on one occasion when he grabbed a glass from one of the ringside tables at the Monroe Hall. . . One night Johnny Gilbert chased Ratman



Tiny Tim Hampton

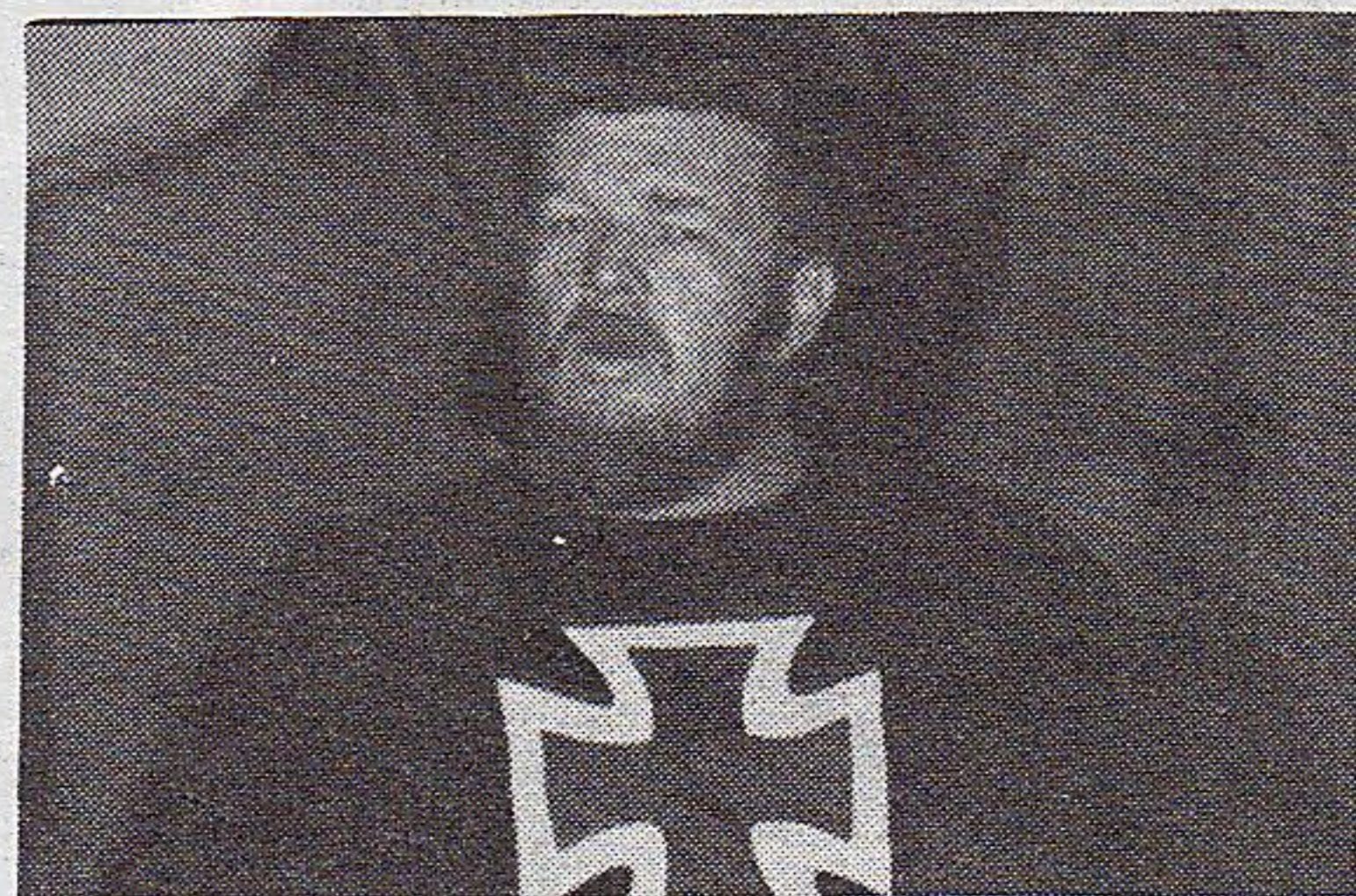




Steve Dalton

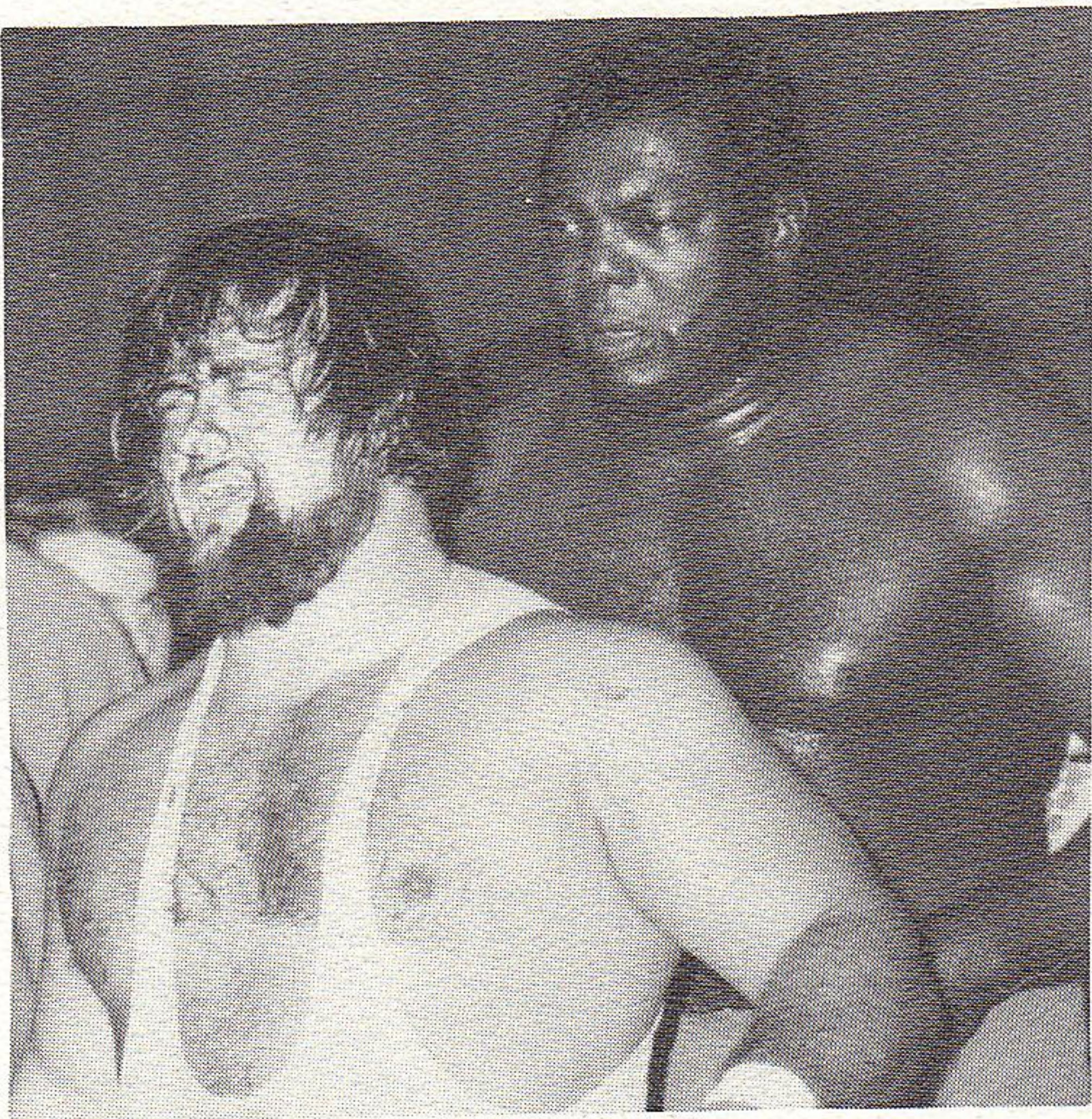
out of the ring & into the bleachers where he sought sanctuary. Gilbert caught up with him in an empty section & bounced him down several rows. Still Ratman won the 2-3 fall match, using a foreign object in the deciding fall . . . Ratman pinned Bettencourt in a title match however, referee Bob Williamson found the object that was used to knock Jose into bloody unconsciousness & disqualified him. . . Rookie of the Year Steve Dalton came very close to

taking the Junior Hvywt. title belt from the arrogant Pretty Boy, Pete Colt. He was usually victimized by Colt's foreign object or his manager, Col. Peabody. . Dalton did quite well in a chain match with Ratman, using the chain for several clever moves to gain the advantage. Eventually they both went out of the ring tangling the chain around the ringpost. They had to have the chain removed, Ratman then going wild, opening up a bad cut on Steve's forehead & knocking out the ref who tried to restrain him. . . The area tag champions, a long-time team of Kurt von Stroheim & Killer Dick Jacks split up. The two began to get on each other's nerves & when Stroheim brought his old friend, the Black Baron into the area to beef up the team, acting as their manager, Jacks couldn't get along with him & wound up bodyslamming him in the middle of a tag match & walking out. . . Funniest sight of the year was von Stroheim & Bulldog Drummer being mauled while trying to rough up Victor the Bear. . . In a title bout with Gene Gordon, Bettencourt had to contend with Bulldog Drummer (seconding Gene) and the brassknuckles that Drummer slipped to Gordon. Jose managed to get ahold of them, sending Drummer scurrying as Gene got what he deserved. . . Tiny Tim Hampton (who won a handicap match from Colt & Peabody) using his co-co butts has most of the villains frightened. So has big Will Hagen who takes them on in all kinds of bouts - Von Stroheim

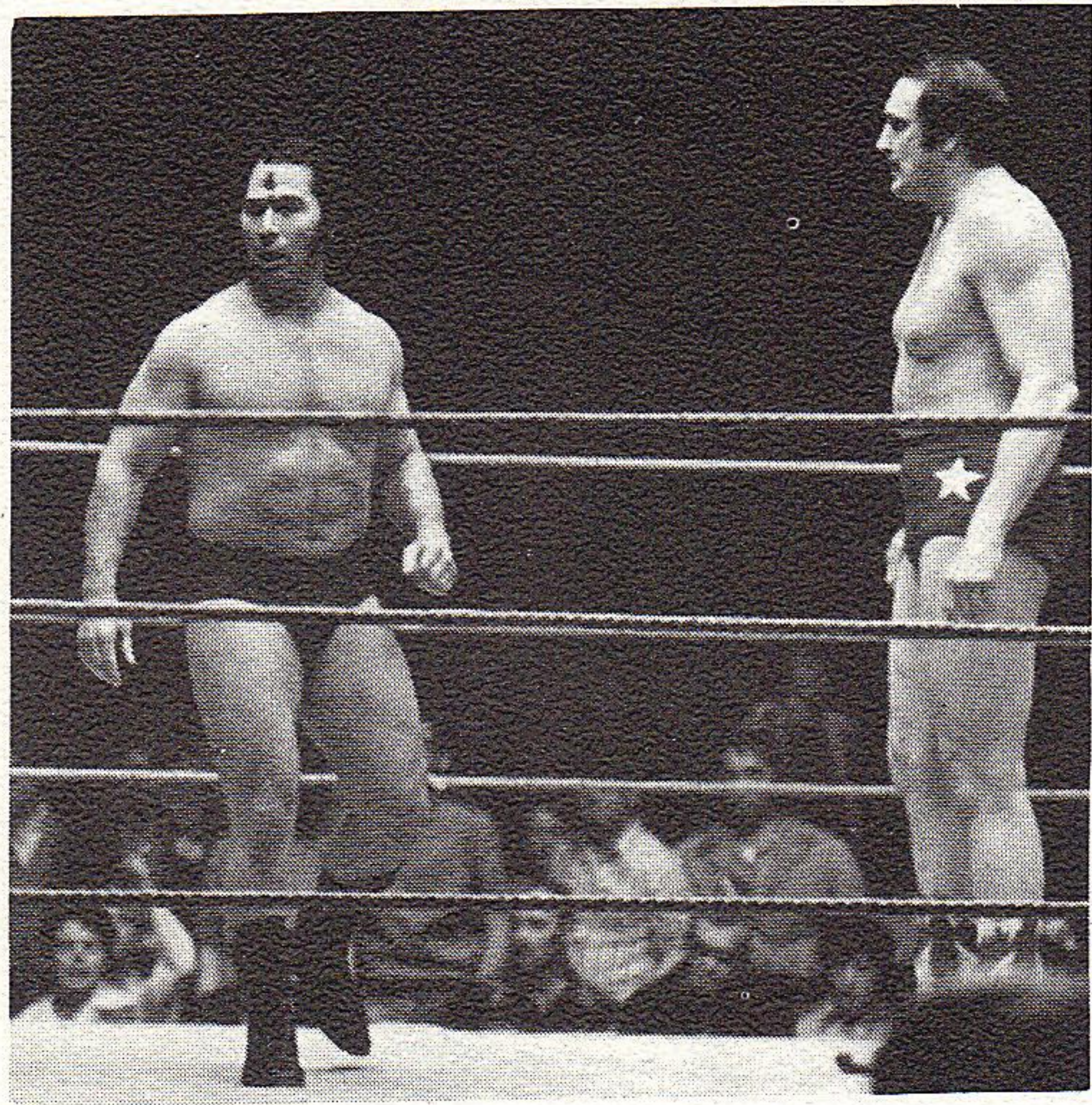


Kurt





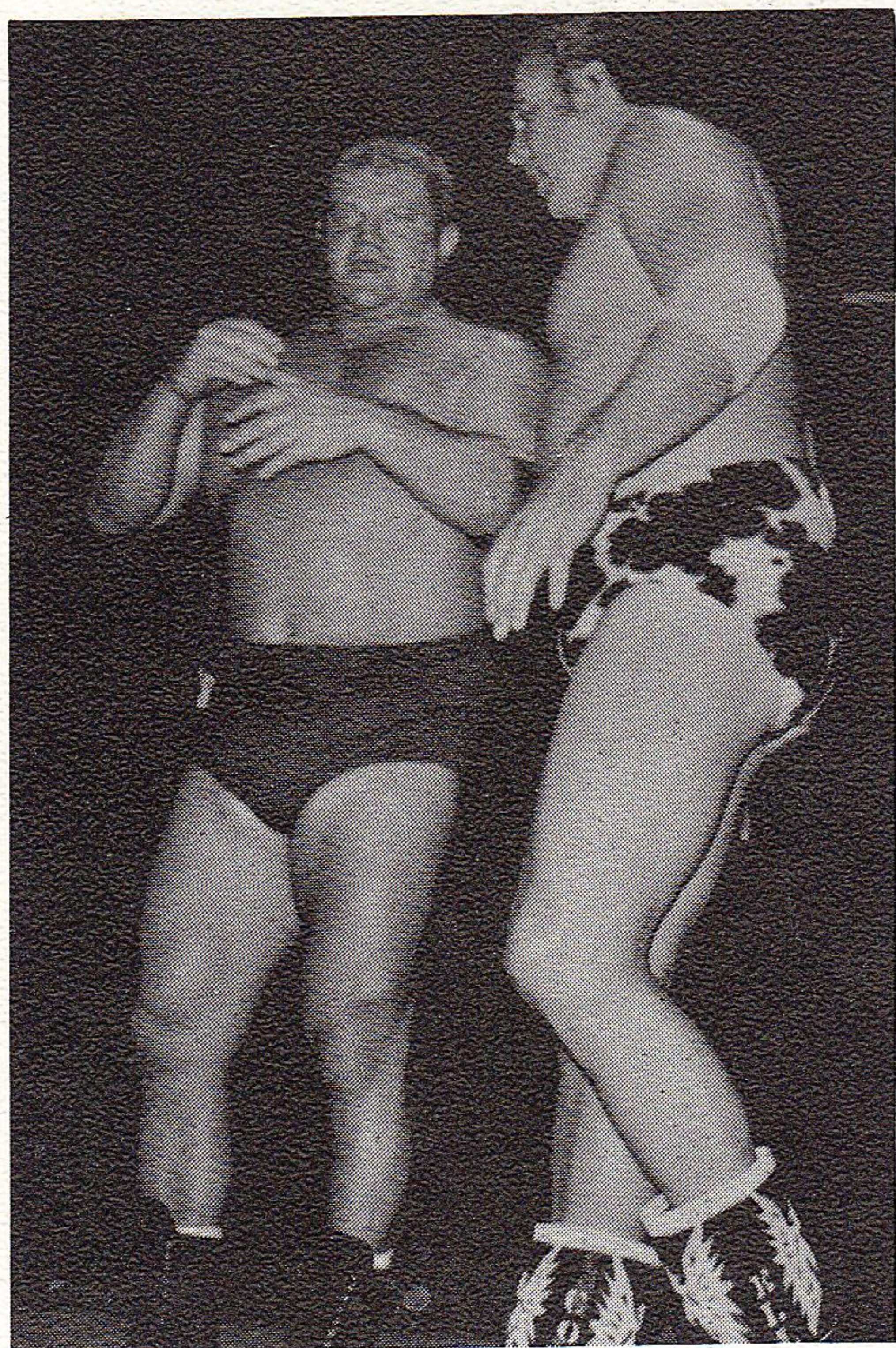
IGOR & BRAZIL



MARINO & MCKENZIE

GREAT TAG TEAM COMBINATIONS

BRUISER & ELLIS



ROBINSON & GAGNE

